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NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Security Council a report submitted by the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission established by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 9 (b) (i) of Security Council resolution 687 (1991).

Enclosure

Report dated 10 September 1993 on the high-level technical talks held in New York from 31 August to 9 September 1993

Introduction

1. From 31 August to 9 September 1993, high-level technical talks were held at United Nations Headquarters between delegations from the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), on the one hand, and, on the other, a delegation from Iraq. The UNSCOM delegation was led by Ambassador Rolf Ekéus, Executive Chairman of the Commission, the IAEA delegation by Professor Maurizio Zifferero, Action Team Leader under Security Council resolution 687 (1991), and the Iraqi delegation by General Amer Muhammad Rashid, Director of the Military Industrialization Corporation of Iraq. A complete list of the delegations is contained in an attachment. The present report sets out the background, organization and objectives of the talks. Annexes I, II and III relate respectively to outstanding issues in connection with prohibited programmes, ongoing monitoring and verification and reports by the Special Commission and IAEA under paragraph 22 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991). These annexes identify the issues discussed during the talks under the relevant headings and, where appropriate, the conclusions on those points. They can serve as a basis for further discussions and immediate steps to implement required measures to achieve the shared objectives.

Background

2. The talks were the outcome of a visit to Baghdad, from 15 to 19 July 1993, by the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission, in the course of which he had met the highest levels of the Iraqi Government. The Chairman's report to the Security Council on his visit was circulated to the Council in document S/26127 of 21 July 1993. That report set out position papers by the Government of Iraq and by the Executive Chairman, together with the latter's initial comments on the Iraqi paper. The report also contained conclusions that represented common understandings between the Commission and Iraq arrived at during the Chairman's visit.

3. These conclusions provided for "the Commission and Iraq to commence, as soon as possible, high-level technical talks in New York. ... Iraq and the Commission are agreed that a principal topic to be discussed will be the nature and implementation of the provisions of the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification as approved by Security Council resolution 715 (1991), as well as all other outstanding issues between Iraq and the Commission". This was to be done "with a view to resolving the aforesaid issues".

Organization

4. The high-level technical talks held in New York for the purposes indicated were organized to allow for plenary sessions, to define with greater clarity the

principal matters for discussion, and for five specialized group meetings in respect of the nuclear, chemical, biological, missile and operational areas. Arrangements were also made for private meetings between the Executive Chairman and the head of the Iraqi delegation to deal with the political aspects arising out of certain of the technical matters and, together with the leader of the IAEA Action Team, to review the progress of the groups. Arrangements were made for the working groups to meet simultaneously. In all two plenary meetings and 36 group meetings were held.

Objectives

5. At the first plenary meeting, the head of the Iraqi delegation stressed that it was the objective of the delegation to resolve all outstanding matters with a view to the earliest possible implementation of paragraph 22 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) regarding the lifting of the prohibitions against the import of commodities and products originating in Iraq and financial transactions related thereto. In the course of the talks, the Iraqi delegation would spell out in detail its concerns regarding ongoing monitoring and the application of the general provisions in the plans approved by Council resolution 715 (1991). The delegation asked that the other side take those concerns into consideration. For its part, the Iraqi delegation would hear the concerns of the Commission and of IAEA, in particular their specific and concrete identification of those issues which they considered to be outstanding in the implementation of section C of resolution 687 (1991). If some issues could not be resolved by 9 September, they should be taken up and resolved in talks at the highest levels in Baghdad in the first week of October. He continued to stress that objective throughout the talks.

6. The Executive Chairman of the Special Commission indicated that the Commission and IAEA shared the view of the Iraqi delegation that the principal objective of the talks was to arrive at a situation where the Commission and IAEA would be in a position to submit to the Security Council fully credible reports stating that, in their view, Iraq had met the requirements expressly relating to section C of resolution 687 (1991) laid down in paragraph 22 of that resolution. With that objective shared by both sides, it should be possible to bring the talks to a successful conclusion. The Commission and IAEA would identify outstanding issues in the implementation of section C of resolution 687 (1991). They would also explain in greater detail the manner in which the plans approved under resolution 715 (1991) would be implemented. In the course of such explanation the various concerns identified by Iraq would, as far as possible, be met. The Commission and IAEA would describe how they envisaged the implementation of the plans in circumstances when a normal atmosphere prevailed and a climate of confidence was developing. The key to implementation of the plans in as non-intrusive a manner as possible lay in transparency and cooperation as ongoing monitoring and verification got under way. The real answer thus lay in the practical implementation of the plans. The Commission and IAEA would also endeavour, in the course of the talks, to specify in greater detail the requirements that would have to be met for the Commission and IAEA to be in a position to report to the Council, under paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991), that in their view Iraq was in compliance with section C of resolution 687 (1991).

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7. The leader of IAEA Action Team, commenting on the issues raised in the plenary session, stated that there was full identity of views between IAEA and the Special Commission on the nature and implementation of ongoing monitoring and verification. That identity was reflected in the similar language contained in document S/22872/Rev.1 (the IAEA plan) and document S/22871/Rev.1 (the Commission's plan). As to the main, still outstanding, issues concerning the identification and disposition of Iraq's nuclear programme prohibited by resolution 687 (1991), there were still a number of areas in the different elements of the programme where clarification and verification were needed. It was felt that the technical talks in New York might have helped in clarifying those grey areas. Great importance was also attached to the provision of information on the foreign suppliers of specific items used in the programme and to the identification of the source(s) that provided Iraq with technical advice.

8. During the initial plenary meeting, in the light of the shared objective, the talks centred around two principal issues. The first was the nature and implementation of ongoing monitoring and verification, in particular a detailed examination of the selection of sites for monitoring, the nature of such monitoring and its relation to international agreements in the field of disarmament, the frequency and duration of inspections, use of ground inspections, aerial surveillance, photography, sensors and other means of verification and its relation to Iraqi concerns regarding security, sovereignty and independence. The second issue related to outstanding matters arising in connection with the identification and disposal of Iraq's programmes prohibited by Security Council resolution 687 (1991), in particular, provision of the information remaining to be provided to the Commission and IAEA for them to have a comprehensive understanding of those programmes and provision of data on the foreign suppliers for those programmes. Those issues were further pursued in the working groups.

(Signed) Rolf EKÉUS
Executive Chairman of the
Special Commission

(Signed) Amer Muhammad RASHID
Head of the delegation of Iraq

(Signed) Maurizio ZIFFERERO
Leader, IAEA Action Team

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Attachment

Delegation of Iraq

1. H. E. General Amer M. Rashid
   Director, Military Industrialization Corporation (MIC)

2. H. E. Ambassador Nizar Hamdoon
   Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

3. Abdul Halim Al-Hijaj
   Vice Chairman, Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC)

4. Hosam M. Amin
   Expert (MIC)

5. Khaled E. Saeed
   Expert (IAEC)

6. Sami R. T. Al-Araji
   Expert (IAEC)

7. Ghazi Faisal Najm Al-Din
   Expert (MIC)

8. Rihab R. T. Al-Azawi
   Expert (MIC)

9. Alaa M. Abbas Al-Saeed
   Expert (MIC)

10. Saad A. Makki
    Expert (MIC)

11. Hamid K. Ibrahim
    Expert (MIC)

12. Kamal A. Mohammed
    Expert (MIC)

13. Basil A. Mohammed
    Expert (MIC)

14. Said. H. Hasan Al-Musawi
    Minister Plenipotentiary
    Ministry for Foreign Affairs

15. Samir K. Al-Nima
    Minister Plenipotentiary
    Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations

16. Abdul-Wahab A. Jassim
Second Secretary
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

17. Jasem A. Hassan
Administrative Assistant (MIC)

Delegations of the Special Commission and IAEA

Special Commission

Ambassador R. Ekéus
Mr. P. Corden
Mr. M. Saint Mleux
Mr. J. Santesson
Mr. J. Scott
Mr. T. Trevan
Mr. W. Eckert
Mr. N. Smidovich
Ms. R. Davies
Mr. P. Palanque
Mr. S. Ritter
Mr. M. Silver
Mr. R. Hill
Mr. H. Reeps
Mr. D. Dorn
Ms. L. Gerard
Mr. D. Kelley
Mr. P. Binder
Mr. V. Beck
Ms. K. Bresnahan
Mr. O. Ignatiev
Mr. F. Guir
Mr. R. Godfrey
Mr. J. Sarisky

IAEA

Professor M. Zifferero
Mr. R. Kelley
Mr. R. Hooper
Mr. B. Andemicael

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Annex I

Outstanding issues

1. The working groups were instructed to conduct a thorough review of all issues outstanding in regard to the implementation of Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), section C, 707 (1991) and 715 (1991). In regard to resolution 687 (1991), the groups addressed, in particular, concerns identified by the Special Commission and IAEA relating to Iraq's implementation of paragraphs 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 of that resolution. The groups were asked to resolve, as far as possible, the outstanding issues under those paragraphs and, where that could not be done during the current talks, to list the remaining issues relating to what was required of Iraq to bring it into compliance with the paragraphs. As regards paragraph 10 on ongoing monitoring and verification, the working groups addressed concerns raised by both sides. The results of that consideration will be found in annex II.

2. The paragraphs which follow set out a brief account of the remaining issues for compliance identified in the working groups except the group on operational issues, the outcome of its work being reflected in annexes II and III. The elaboration of these remaining issues is contained in the lists being delivered to the head of the delegation of Iraq separately under cover of a letter from the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission and for the nuclear part under cover of a letter from the Leader of IAEA UNSCR 687 Action Team. The head of the delegation of Iraq undertook that Iraq would make every endeavour to provide satisfactory answers to those issues at a further session of the high-level technical talks, possibly to be held in Baghdad in the first week of October 1993.

3. It was understood that, when Iraq addressed the issues in a satisfactory manner and information provided by it was independently verified where necessary, the Special Commission and IAEA would be in a position to conclude that Iraq had completed the actions necessary to bring it into compliance with paragraphs 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 of resolution 687 (1991).

Chemical weapons-related issues

4. The working group dealing with chemical weapons held nine meetings and one joint meeting with the biological group. The chemical weapons group had an intensive discussion of issues based on information previously provided by Iraq pursuant to resolutions 687 (1991) and 715 (1991) and from other sources available to the Special Commission. As a result, some of the issues were resolved.

5. Other critical issues related to past programmes remain for further work and have been communicated to the Government of Iraq (see para. 2 above):

(a) Production of chemical warfare agents;

(b) Precursor chemicals;

(c) Specific critical equipment suppliers;

(d) Weaponization of produced agents;

(e) Suppliers of unfilled munitions;

(f) Chemical weapons facilities.

With regard to point (f), the Iraqi side reaffirmed the non-existence of any other undeclared chemical weapons facilities.

6. On yet other questions, such as making available personnel for further discussion on the above issues, the representatives of Iraq agreed to respond positively in Baghdad.

7. The Commission representatives explained that, with regard to some of the critical issues referred to above, information in the possession of the Commission, including documentary evidence, was at variance with that provided so far by the representatives of Iraq, namely (a) the availability of precursors and their production and handling facilities; (b) relations with other countries in the offensive chemical weapons programme; and (c) the time at which the offensive chemical weapons programme was initiated. The Iraqi side reaffirms the credibility of the information given previously. However, it will study the contradictions raised by the Commission, when provided in documentary evidence form, and will provide explanations during the resumed talks.

Biological weapons-related issues

8. The working group dealing with biological weapons-related issues conducted a thorough review of all outstanding issues in the course of six meetings and one joint meeting with the chemical weapons-related group. The Commission representatives received a full account of the genesis, evolution and termination of the programme of research at the Section for Biological Research for Military Defence Purposes (BRMD) at the Technical Research Centre at Salman Pak. The critical issues on which further information from the Iraqi side was required were identified as the present location of inhalation chambers and aerosol generators not yet identified by the Commission but which are known to have been imported into Iraq. In addition, information is required by type, quantity, year since 1985, supplier and user of imports of toxins, micro-organisms in risk groups II-IV and complex media for the growth of these organisms.

9. The Commission is concerned about the extent of Iraq's biological weapons-related activities and, in particular, the possibility of such activities being conducted at facilities other than the Section for Biological Research for Military Defence Purposes. The Iraqi side strongly reaffirmed the non-existence at any stage of a biological weapons programme. Iraq also reaffirmed that the activities undertaken at the Section for Biological Research for Military Defence Purposes were as previously defined to the Commission, i.e. biological military defence research and development.

10. Iraq expressed concern at the general nature of certain of the prohibitions contained in the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification, in particular with regard to those contained in paragraphs 38 (c) and (d) of document S/22871/Rev.1 concerning the conduct of activities on diseases other than those

indigenous to Iraq or immediately expected to break out in its environment and concerning the breeding of vectors of human, animal and plant diseases. The Commission assured the Iraqi side that those concerns would be met by a routine and expeditious processing of all allowable requests from Iraq for exceptions to the general prohibitions contained in the plan.

Missile issues

11. The missile working group had eight meetings. It addressed the issues related to the plan for ongoing monitoring and verification and Iraq's prohibited missile programmes.

12. The discussion on missile programmes was focused on remaining issues, primarily related to Iraq's efforts to produce Al Hussein missiles and solid propulsion missiles. The information provided by the Iraqi experts, either voluntarily or in response to direct questioning, coincided with the information available to the Commission. The Iraqi side reiterated its position that it was not able to provide documentary evidence to support information given to the Commission. As a result of the meetings, a few issues still remain unresolved:

(a) Information on specific foreign suppliers;

(b) Equipment delivered or ordered for the project No. 1728;

(c) The extent of possible foreign assistance in the project No. B2000.

Specific ways to address those unresolved issues were outlined.

13. The Iraqi experts expressed some concerns over the provisions of the plan for ongoing monitoring and verification, primarily related to declarations and inspections of military sites. Specific modalities for implementation of relevant provisions of the plan were identified. They deal with declarations, establishment of baseline data and inspections. The Commission experts presented an integrated concept of the practical implementation of the ongoing monitoring and verification in the missile area. Categories of facilities to be monitored, their numbers, frequency of inspections and other modalities for implementation were jointly examined.

Nuclear issues

14. IAEA is confident that the major elements of Iraq's nuclear weapons programme are understood and have been dismantled. The remaining issues for compliance with paragraphs 11, 12 and 13 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) relate primarily to procurement.

15. A clear understanding of Iraqi procurements and the sources of technical advice for the nuclear programme has been a primary inspection objective since the beginning of inspections in Iraq under resolution 687 (1991). During IAEA-18, following a course well established through previous inspections, a broad range of questions dealing with Iraqi procurements were put to the Iraqi side. The Iraqi side's often stated response was that, with the destruction of records during and following the Gulf War, it had no way to deal with such a general request and, in addition, it believed that most of the requested

information was already in the hands of IAEA. It is true that, through inspection data collected in Iraq, investigations undertaken by Governments of Member States and interviews with personnel of specific companies, most of the manufacturers that, knowingly or unknowingly, supplied the Iraqi nuclear programme have been identified. Further, many of the front organizations and purchasing agents are also known.

16. Important remaining questions have been put to the Iraqi side a number of times. Since December 1992 these questions have been put forward in the context of an offer from the Chairman of the Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC) to deal positively with specific questions. These questions are restated below:

(a) What are the identities of the individuals and/or companies from outside Iraq who supplied technical and design information for the Iraqi magnetic centrifuge?

(b) Who were the manufacturers, suppliers, agents and shippers for the 350-grade maraging steel? Please distinguish between the sources of the maraging steel used in the manufacture of centrifuge components outside Iraq and the stock of maraging steel presented inside Iraq. [The Iraqi side expressed concern that, while it can identify the supplier, it has no knowledge of who manufactured the maraging steel.]

(c) Who supplied the carbon fibre rotor tubes and how were technical specifications communicated to the manufacturer?

(d) Describe the activities undertaken by the H & H Company with respect to the Iraqi centrifuge enrichment programme.

(e) Identify the manufacturer and describe the procurement procedure for the HMX explosive declared by Iraq to have been intended for conventional armaments.

17. A number of questions have been dealt with in the course of the high-level technical talks in New York, between 31 August and 9 September 1993. It was agreed that two specific questions regarding the nuclear material will be dealt with during IAEA-22, planned for early November 1993.

Annex II

A. Ongoing monitoring and verification by the Special Commission

1. During the plenary sessions of the high-level technical talks, the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission explained that the departure point was the position papers by Iraq and the Commission set out in document S/26127. Starting from Iraq's undertaking in paragraph 1 of its paper that it was "ready to comply with the provisions of the plans of ongoing monitoring and verification as contained in resolution 715 (1991)", and the Commission's undertakings in paragraphs 2 to 5 of its position paper, the two sides should clarify and flesh out those undertakings with a view to the creation of circumstances in which ongoing monitoring and verification could be initiated in a harmonious and cooperative manner.

2. The head of the Iraqi delegation and the Iraqi participants in the working groups gave a comprehensive and clear account of the concerns of Iraq in relation to ongoing monitoring and verification, in particular in the context of the security, sovereignty and independence of Iraq. Those concerns related both to the general provisions in the plans by the Commission and IAEA and in the annexes to those plans.

3. The Iraqi side stressed the need for the monitoring to be carried out in a non-intrusive manner and in accordance with the rules and methods adopted in relevant international agreements already in force, on the understanding that those agreements took over the functions of the plan as stated in paragraph 25 of document S/22614 approved by Security Council resolution 699 (1991). The delegation also stressed the importance it attached to the Commission and IAEA moving rapidly to the use of Iraqi air support, both fixed- and rotary-wing, for their operations in Iraq and also the employment of other Iraqi assets, with the participation of qualified Iraqi staff, for example in the development of photography and analysis of samples. Iraq could agree to the use of sensors both on the ground and in the air for monitoring purposes, but maintained its objection to the use of video cameras in aerial surveillance. Iraq also required that appropriate measures be established for continuous and close coordination, particularly with the Commission's facilities in Iraq. Where challenge inspections of newly designated sites were undertaken and where it was determined that no need had been established to add the sites to the list of facilities to be monitored, all records of the inspections and material gathered in their course should be destroyed.

4. The Executive Chairman stressed that it was the intention to implement the plans in the least intrusive manner consistent with effective monitoring and verification in the circumstances prevailing and with all due regard to the legitimate concerns of Iraq regarding its sovereignty, security, dignity and independence. As the Commission had indicated in Baghdad during the July meetings, it was the intention that the plans should be carried out in the same spirit as relevant international agreements in the field of arms control and disarmament. In the course of discussions, he recalled paragraph 25 of the report of the Secretary-General on the plan for the implementation of relevant parts of section C of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (S/22614). That

paragraph foresaw that, at an appropriate time, and after the entry into force of a Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the inspectorate envisaged in it might take over the function of monitoring and verification of compliance in the area of chemical weapons. This could now be seen as a long-term objective, the Council having decided in its resolution 715 (1991) that the Commission should continue as the body responsible for the implementation of the Secretary-General's plan for ongoing monitoring and verification.

5. During the working group meetings and the discussions between the Executive Chairman and the head of the Iraqi delegation, it was explained by the Commission that the implementation of the plans would be carried out in three stages. During the first stage, a monitoring and verification baseline would be established. This baseline would be constructed primarily upon the declarations made by Iraq. To the extent those declarations were found to be deficient, they would be complemented by the Commission through the addition of sites already designated or the designation of new sites. Such new designations would be made by the Chairman, as was the case under resolution 687 (1991). A finite number of facilities would be identified for each of the categories. Where inspections of a newly designated site did not establish any basis for adding that site to the list of facilities to be monitored, the Commission could not agree to the destruction of records of that inspection but would be prepared to seal records retained and to store them in an agreed place, from which they could be made available to the Commission should the Executive Chairman decide that a need had arisen to consult them again.

6. As an illustration, three types of sites for monitoring were mentioned:

(a) Core-sites (not applicable in the chemical or biological areas), where permitted but weapons-related activities were taking place, for example, sites already subject to interim monitoring;

(b) Sites earlier involved in the production of prohibited items (some destroyed);

(c) Dual-use sites.

7. Sites would be subject to an initial baseline inspection for the purpose of establishing a description of the facility and of obtaining information necessary for the planning and conduct of future monitoring inspections. Such inspections would entail a full survey of the site concerned and technical interviews with personnel for purposes restricted to the implementation of the plan. On this basis, some facilities would not be included in further regular monitoring activities (although further visits could not be excluded). The aim would be to focus monitoring and verification activities, on the basis of the findings of the survey, on as few critical points as possible consistent with effective monitoring. When baseline data had been established for a facility, a programme for ongoing monitoring or inspection would be decided upon by the Commission (normally comprising one, two or three visits per year). A copy of the "facility attachment" (inspection handbook for the facility), prepared as a result of the baseline inspection, would be provided to the Government of Iraq.

8. The second stage would consist of inspection visits carried out for the purpose of building confidence, verifying that activities conducted were

consistent with the information contained in Iraq's declarations and notifications, confirming data from the baseline inspection, identifying significant modifications or changes in the facilities and activities at the facility and making any necessary changes to the facility attachment. The inspection visits would be conducted as non-intrusive and cooperative monitoring activities, while maintaining the effectiveness of the monitoring regime. Upon completion of a routine inspection, one or more meetings would normally be held with the Iraq counterparts in which the Chief Inspector would present and explain the conclusions reached during the inspection. The Iraqi counterparts could present their written observations on those conclusions which would, if the counterparts so requested, be annexed to the inspection report. A copy of the inspection report, after submission to the Executive Chairman, would be provided to the Government of Iraq.

9. Inspectors would be employed on as wide a geographical basis as possible within the limitations of the particular expertise required for the area concerned. For example, in the chemical and biological area, increasing use would be made of experts drawn from civilian industry. All inspectors would be required to sign undertakings regarding confidentiality and non-disclosure of information obtained in the course of their official duties. These undertakings are the same as those which have been required from United Nations and IAEA staff and experts since the establishment of the Organizations. The undertakings continue to be binding after the person concerned has ended his or her employment with the United Nations or IAEA and are of indefinite duration.

10. It was explained that, when confidence was established, the ongoing monitoring and verification would enter into the third phase, which could lead to possible reduction of sites to be monitored and modification of the general provisions and of the annexes to the plans in the direction of existing relevant international agreements (see para. 4 above).

11. It was explained to the Iraqi side that consideration of the number of facilities to be subject to monitoring was dependent on Iraq's declarations and the assessments of the Commission. With regard to the chemical facilities, the Commission, on the basis of the data now available to it, considered that around two dozen facilities were a possibility. In the missile area, core sites and dual-use sites might add up to around a dozen. In the biological area, 6 to 10 sites might be considered for regular monitoring. Additional laboratories and research facilities conducting activities listed in paragraph 38 of the plan (S/22871/Rev.1) might require less frequent, and mainly information-exchange, visits. Inspections of such sites would be supplemented by occasional "spot check" inspections of other sites to ensure the completeness of the lists of sites subject to monitoring in accordance with the criteria for monitoring laid down in the plans. It was difficult at the present stage to assess the number of storage sites subject to visits, not monitoring. Such visits would, in any event, be infrequent.

12. Iraq reaffirmed its request for use of local means for aerial surveillance and technical support. However, the Executive Chairman indicated that the Commission must continue to make use of its own aerial capability for logistical and technical support purposes and for surveillance purposes. However, the latter would be with diminishing frequency as confidence-building measures bore fruit and as baseline surveys were completed. The designation of sites for

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aerial surveillance would continue, as at present, to be made by the Chairman and all flights would be tasked from the Office of the Executive Chairman. The use of local logistical and technical aerial and other support would be dependent upon the prevailing situation of confidence and the availability of adequate assets. The Commission was prepared to undertake a full survey of those assets to determine their technical adequacy and to enter into early discussions with the relevant Iraqi authorities for use, on a trial basis, of Iraqi helicopters for transportation from Baghdad to the Muthanna State Establishment. Those discussions, in the light of the experience gained, could be extended early in 1994 to the use of Iraqi aerial assets for other purposes.

13. The acceptance of the use of sensors for monitoring purposes by the Iraqi side was welcomed, but the Commission continued to reserve its right to use all means it considered necessary to accomplish its tasks, including the use of video cameras in aerial surveillance for the purposes explained to the Iraqi side in the working group on operational questions.

14. The Executive Chairman expressed the belief that the monitoring activities could start as soon as Iraq no longer objected to the implementation of the plans. Under the best possible circumstances, the first baseline inspections could begin shortly after 1 December 1993. Baseline and confidence-building phases were not necessarily completely sequential. The confidence-building stage could be phased in as soon as the first baseline inspections were concluded. The determination of when the implementation of the plans under resolution 715 (1991) had proceeded to the point where it could be said that monitoring and verification was up and running would depend upon the assessment of a number of inspection visits, although all baseline inspections need not necessarily have been carried out. A six-month period after the initiation of the first baseline inspection might be realistic.

15. The above paragraphs are intended as guidelines for the implementation of the plan for ongoing monitoring and verification. They will be reviewed regularly, taking into account the experience gained in the implementation of the plan and development of cooperation and confidence.

B. Ongoing monitoring and verification by IAEA

16. The sites that will be inspected by the nuclear team under the ongoing monitoring and verification programme are described in four categories as follows:

(a) Sites with a previous nuclear or nuclear-related mission (8 sites are identified);

(b) Sites that provided support to the previous nuclear programme (11 sites are identified);

(c) Sites that have capabilities useful to a reconstituted nuclear programme (4 sites are identified in addition to those referred to in para. 2 below);

(d) Sites, unidentified at this point, that may be designated for inspection as a result of new information (inspection results or third-party information).

Additional sites from declarations made by the Iraqi side are to be added to categories (b) or (c) as appropriate. Sites may be added to categories (a), (b) or (c) as a result of inspection findings throughout the course of the ongoing monitoring and verification programme.

17. Laboratories and research facilities that have capabilities potentially useful in reconstituting the nuclear weapons programme are not explicitly counted in the list of sites contained in category (c). They will be dealt with on an ad hoc, case-by-case basis to conduct the inspections in as non-intrusive a manner as possible.

18. Inspections at sites in category (a) will be routine. Inspections at sites in categories (b) and (c) will be a combination of announced and no-notice inspections. The situation involving inspections in category (d) is more complex. IAEA has the right under Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991) to conduct no-notice inspections. This right is fundamental to the Agency's mandate to ensure no reconstitution of Iraq's nuclear-weapon capability. The Agency will exercise this right when (a) it assesses the information to be credible and when (b) the indicated nuclear weapons capability can be readily concealed or destroyed. The Agency will provide notice when the indicated activity at a new site is not of a time-sensitive nature. In the case that an inspection results in negative findings, the information, photographs and samples will be maintained in a confidential file and reviewed periodically for destruction.

19. Iraq is developing and plans to implement an accountancy system showing status, current location and utilization for all items listed in the declaration required under annex 3 of document S/22872/Rev.1. This accountancy system will provide the basis for a current declaration regarding those items at quarterly intervals. A facility attachment, describing detailed inspection protocols, will be developed for each of the sites in categories (a) to (c).

20. Technical means such as environmental samples (water, air vegetation, smears, etc.), gamma detectors, surveillance cameras and possibly others will be utilized in all types of inspections. A water-sampling regime, including sediments and biota, has already been established and is fully operational. Smear and vegetation samples will be collected as in the past but with much reduced frequency. No protocol has yet been established with respect to air sampling. Duplicate samples will be provided to the Iraqi side, at their request.

21. The protocol involving the use of surveillance cameras will be in accordance with nuclear material safeguards applications. The protocol for other technical means in the nuclear field has yet to be developed. All technical means will be applied in a cost effective way and Iraqi technical expertise will be utilized where possible.

22. Information resulting from the inspections will be carefully controlled to ensure that the information is not used for any purpose other than serving

IAEA's mandate under Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991). IAEA reserves the right to produce and distribute inspection reports and summaries as directed by the Security Council. The Agency encourages Iraq to share its own daily inspection reports, which will be appended to IAEA's daily inspection report and to comment independently on IAEA reports and official statements.

Annex III

Reports by the Special Commission and IAEA under paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991)

1. During the high-level technical talks, the head of the delegation of Iraq explained that his Government wished to resolve immediately all matters considered by the Special Commission and IAEA to be outstanding relating to the implementation of paragraphs 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991), so that the Commission and IAEA could so report to the Council under paragraph 22 of that resolution. At the same time, agreement should be reached with the Commission and IAEA, taking into account the concerns of Iraq, on the implementation of the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification, prepared pursuant to the requirements of paragraphs 10 and 13 of resolution 687 (1991). This would permit reporting of Iraqi compliance to the Council under paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991), so that, simultaneously with that reporting, the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification would be put into effect. There should be no overlapping of operations under section C of resolution 687 (1991) and under the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification approved by resolution 715 (1991). Furthermore, the Iraqi position is that there should be no further action under the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification until paragraph 22 is activated.

2. The Executive Chairman noted that, on several occasions, most recently during his visit to Baghdad in July 1993, he had indicated that the Commission "would be prepared to give an undertaking that it will report to the Security Council, under paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991), when it is satisfied that Iraq is in compliance with its obligations under paragraph 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of that resolution" (S/26127, sect. I B, para. 7). In the course of the high-level technical talks, the Iraqi delegation was provided with a further elaboration of the requirements for a report by the Commission to the Council. In the nuclear area, similar requirements would apply to a report by the Director General of IAEA.

3. In reporting to the Council, the Commission and IAEA would be discharging their respective responsibilities to keep the Council informed of the stage reached in the implementation of the Council's resolutions, so as to provide it with an adequate basis for a determination that Iraq had completed all actions contemplated under the paragraphs of resolution 687 (1991) mentioned above. That determination would have to be made by the Council and would not be made without favourable final reports from the Commission and the Director General of IAEA. Furthermore, those final reports could be submitted only when the Commission and IAEA were satisfied that Iraq was in compliance, which included the requirement that the plans for ongoing monitoring and verification were up and running in a satisfactory manner.

4. In order to make the necessary reports, the Commission and IAEA would need to be satisfied that Iraq had provided all the necessary information on outstanding issues in relation to its prohibited programmes to constitute a full, final and complete disclosure, as called for in Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), 707 (1991) and 715 (1991), of all programmes to develop prohibited weapons and of all holdings of such weapons, their components,

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production, research and development facilities and locations. Critical data on foreign suppliers and on past production activities had to be given by Iraq. The high-level technical talks had provided the opportunity to define with greater precision what information the Commission and IAEA required in respect of the programmes concerned. When all initial information was furnished, it would be assessed by the Commission and IAEA and, to the extent necessary, verified by independent inspection by the means deemed appropriate by the Commission and IAEA.

5. Given the fulfilment of Iraq's obligation to provide the information required on outstanding issues referred to in annex I, the Commission and IAEA intend to complete the identification phase of their work, under resolution 687 (1991), very probably before the end of December 1993. However, this would require Iraq to accept and facilitate imminent forthcoming inspection activities.

6. If the foregoing conditions were met, it was further explained that, shortly after December 1993, probably within about two months, if operations now under way proceeded according to plan, the destruction of Iraq's identified chemical weapons and precursors would have been completed and the irradiated uranium fuel now stored at Tuwaitha and Location B would have been removed from Iraq. The Special Commission and IAEA would, in the same time period, also take all necessary decisions concerning the release of items connected with prohibited programmes on which such decisions had been reserved.

7. There would then remain the initiation of the ongoing monitoring and verification required under paragraphs 10 and 13 of resolution 687 (1991), as elaborated upon in resolution 715 (1991) and in the plans approved thereunder, and the smooth functioning of such monitoring and verification. The Iraqi delegation was informed that, with the necessary cooperation, this should prove possible within a period of six months after receipt from Iraq of comprehensive declarations regarding all facilities that fell under the provisions of the plans.

8. The Executive Chairman considered that the high-level technical talks had indicated the possibility that, the necessary political will being demonstrated by the Government of Iraq, the foregoing conditions could be met.

9. The Commission must be accorded facilities it has repeatedly called for but been denied, particularly in the matter of use of Rasheed airfield by the Commission's fixed-wing aircraft and the conduct of aerial surveillance by both rotary- and fixed-wing aircraft pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Council. For its part, the Iraqi side stated that it would extend its cooperation in the use of its own aircraft for transportation of Commission and IAEA personnel and equipment to Iraq, or when commercial air services are resumed. The Commission has asked the head of the delegation of Iraq to convey to his Government the Commission's requirement for the immediate activation of the cameras at Yawm Al Azim and Al Rafah. The head of the delegation will reply upon his return to Baghdad.

UNITED
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16 September 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-eighth session
Item 80 of the provisional agenda*
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 16 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova on the illegal activities of General Lebed, the Commander of the 14th Russian Army, dislocated in the eastern part of my country.

I should be grateful if you would have the attached statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 80 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Tudor PANTIRU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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* A/48/150 and Corr.1.

ANNEX

Statement of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova

(Chisinau, 14 September 1993)

Recently, in "partial elections" to the "Supreme Soviet" of the self-proclaimed "Dniester Moldovan Republic", General Alexander Lebed, the Commander of the 14th Russian Army, submitted his candidature for a vote and was elected as a member of the so-called "Parliament". Acting in this way, General Lebed demonstrated once again his well-known lack of good faith and total neglect of the provisions contained in the agreements between Presidents M. Snegur and B. Eltin.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova states that the decision of a foreign citizen, commander of a foreign army temporarily located on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, to take part in the "elections" to the anti-constitutional bodies of the so-called "Dniester Republic" represents nothing else than a brutal and unspeakable interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State - the Republic of Moldova.

This action is considered by the Government of the Republic of Moldova as a new attempt by certain forces in Russia for a de facto recognition of the pseudo "Dniester Republic", as well as a clear signal of the unwillingness of the Russian side to withdraw its military units from the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova expresses once again its regret and concern over the fact that it is not aware of any action and it has not received any response to the numerous statements and protest notes regarding the illegal actions of General Lebed, and it hopes that this time the Government of the Russian Federation will take all appropriate measures in order to stop these provocative actions which could aggravate the situation in the eastern districts of the Republic of Moldova as well as the good relations between the two countries.

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16 September 1993

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Agenda items 30 and 35
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 15 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement by the Government of Malaysia on the mutual recognition between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel and on the Agreement on Palestinian limited autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the statement could be circulated as a document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 30 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Razali ISMAIL
Ambassador

ANNEX

Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia on the mutual recognition between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel and on the Agreement on Palestinian limited autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho

Malaysia welcomes the decision reached between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel on mutual recognition as well as the historic agreement for a Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza-Jericho occupied territories signed in Washington on 13 September 1993.

We view these latest events as a positive and forward movement in the long and arduous search for a comprehensive, just and durable solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Malaysia has consistently urged for an early resolution of the Palestinian problem based on justice and through negotiations. In this context, we have lent our support to the Middle East peace process and have called all parties concerned to demonstrate the necessary political will and good faith in resolving the conflict. Malaysia has consistently and firmly supported the Palestinian cause and we hope this agreement is the first step towards the building of mutual confidence that would ultimately provide the solution of the Palestinian issue within the framework of the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which provide for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to a homeland and the security of all States, including Israel.

Malaysia would also like to take this opportunity to commend the Palestinian leadership for its realistic and courageous act in leading the Palestinian people towards a new and promising future.

We are confident that the PLO and Israel, as well as other Arab States in the Middle East, will build on this initial success and continue to strive to bring about a new era of long-lasting peace, stability and prosperity to the region.

UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/26454
16 September 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 771 (1992) and paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 780 (1992), I have the honour to submit, enclosed herewith, an addition to our earlier submissions of documents concerning war crimes on the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

The enclosed documents are describing war crimes and grave breaches of Geneva conventions committed by BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces against the Croatian civilian population on the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I would be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

REPORT ON WAR CRIMES AND GRAVE BREACHES OF GENEVA CONVENTIONS COMMITED BY BiH ARMY AND MUSLIM PARAMILITARY FORCES AGAINST THE CROATIAN CIVILIAN POPULATION IN CENTRAL BOSNIA AND NORTHERN HERZEGOVINA

Report dated September 3, 1993

This report is based on the first-hand information and data (including medical documentation on victims of torture and a number of written eye-witness or survivor testimonies) collected by medical doctors - members of the following governmental and nongovernmental organizations or institutions:

Department of Information & Research of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia;
Medical Center for Human Rights, School of Medicine University of Zagreb
Center for Human Rights, Medugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina;
Hospitals in Mostar, Nova Bila and other parts of the Croatian Community of Herzeg-Bosna.
Mobile surgical and medical teams actively engaged in the field in treatment and evacuation of wounded and sick from Central Bosnia and Northern Herzegovina.

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ETHNIC CLEANSING OF CROATS IN THE AREA OF VITEZ, BUSOVAČA, KREŠEVO AND KISELJAK

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Center for Human Rights, Medugorje, Bosnia and Herzegovina;
Hospitals in Mostar, Nova Bila and other parts of the Croatian Community of Herzeg-Bosna.
Mobile surgical and medical teams actively engaged in the field in treatment and evacuation of wounded and sick from Central Bosnia and Northern Herzegovina.

INTRODUCTION

General facts and figures

Serbian aggression on Bosnia and Herzegovina began on April 1992. As a result, there are presently about 140,000 killed, about 300,000 wounded and over 2,000,000 refugees and internally displaced persons in Bosnia and Hercegovina (before the outbreak of the war, the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina was 4,500,000). Serbian forces occupied about 70% of the total territory of BiH, while on the remaining 30% the civilian population is exposed to extremely severe and unbearable conditions. There is no fuel, electricity or water supply, there is an ever increasing lack of food and basic supplies, almost all communications are permanently blocked and phone lines are cut off and medical care is clearly insufficient or even completely lacking for the majority of civilians. While the situation in Srebrenica, Goražde and Sarajevo has attracted the prime attention of world media and international humanitarian organizations, the situation in the remaining unoccupied parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and especially in Central Bosnia is equally distressing and calls for an immediate and urgent relief action.

It has to be pointed out that, as a result of brutal Serbian agression combined with ethnic cleansing and grave breaches of Geneva Conventions, over 1,300,000 Muslim and Croat people are being squeezed into a small remaining unoccupied area of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Namely, in spite of joint initial efforts of Muslims and Croats to resist Serbian aggression and to defend their homes, as a result of Serbian strategy of territorial conquest by ethnic cleansing, a significant portion of the Muslim population (from eastern Bosnia i.e. Podrinje, north-western Bosnia i.e. Krajina and eastern Herzegovina i.e. Gacko and Nevesinje) came to be concentrated in central Bosnia and Herzegovina, in territory that the Vance-Owen plan had designated as Croatian. Muslim leaders obviously concluded that the policy of ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and Herzegovina would obviously be tacitly accepted by the western governments (despite to their proclaimed support to the souvereignity and territorial integrity of the recently recognized state). Therefore they decided to try to establish their own mini-state by attacking the territories of Central Bosnia and Northern Herzegovina until that time successfully defended from Serbs by HVO forces - obviously, Croats are militarily weaker than Serbs and moreover Croats were almost completely unprepared for that kind of the conflict with the former allies. It has to be pointed out that the strategy of the Muslim offensive greatly resembles the military tactics of Serbian aggression.

The cummulative effect of the above mentioned military, socio-economical, political and humanitarian crisis factors is both simple and disastrous: the beginning of conflicts and clashes between two former allies, Muslims and Croats - both victims of the Serbian aggression and ethnic cleansing, presently overcrowded and forced to fight for survival within the same small unoccupied territory of BiH. Since in this area (as the result of mass immigration) the Muslims are presently the overwhelming majority desperately striving to secure necessary space and resources, Croatian civilians inevitably became the most vulnerable and endangered victims of the Bosnian tragedy. As the least numerous ethnic group in BiH (18% of pre-war population i.e. 780,000) Croats are presently exposed to undoubtedly the fiercest ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and Herzegovina: there are already 310,000 Croatian displaced persons and refugees from BiH, while approximately 160,000 Croats are completely surrounded and exposed to fierce Muslim attacks for over 4 months in the Central Bosnia.

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The extent and brutallity of the aggression led by BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces are clearly illustrated by the following facts:

1. As a result of Muslim military conquests, HVO lost a vast amount of territory (a total of 3,771 square kilometers!) which was previously under its control and defended from Serbian aggression.

2. Six towns in Central Bosnia have been completely ethnically cleansed of Croats: Konjic, Jablanica, Travnik, Kakanj, Fojnica and Bugojno.

3. According to the present incomplete evidence, at least 187 Croatian villages in that area have been ethnically cleansed, looted, set ablaze and destroyed or significantly damaged.

4. Approximately 4,500 Croats are being detained in 34 independently verified Muslim controlled camps situated in Konjic, Hadžići, Jablanica, eastern part of Mostar, Bugojno, Kakanj, Zenica and Travnik. This represents a minimum estimate on the basis of still incomplete evidence and testimonies by former detainees and witnesses who managed to escape to the HVO controlled territory. The detainees are exposed to maltreatment, malnutrition, are forcibly taken to the front lines as human shields or to dig trenches, and they are being subjected to forcible extraction of blood. Thus far, two Muslim controlled camps for Croatian women have also been identified: one in the Rostovo motel in the Bugojno area, and one in the village of Čelebići near the town of Konjic.

5. According to the official records of the Medical Service of the Croatian Community of Herzeg-Bosna (dated August 20, 1993), there were 5,900 killed and 25,300 wounded Croats in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a result of both Serbian and Muslim aggression. As a result of Serbian aggression, 4,200 Croats got killed and 18,900 wounded; as a result of recent BiH Army forces aggression, 1,700 Croats got killed and 6,400 wounded.

6. At least 53 children and 184 Croatian civilians were murdered by BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces, but there is every reason to believe that the number of casualties is far greater.

7. The total number of Croatian displaced persons and refugees from Bosnia amounts to 310,000 (41% of total Croatian population in Bosnia); 210,000 were expelled or displaced by Serbs, but 100,000 were expelled or displaced by BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces in the period from April until September 1993. It has to be pointed out that some 185,000 (59,7%) of Croatian displaced persons and refugees have come from territory now under Muslim or Serbian control.

8. There are presently approximately 160,000 (83,000 expelled and displaced Croats plus 77,000 Croatian residents, including at least 1,640 wounded and 8,900 sick) surrounded and being forced to endure unbearable conditions for over 4 months in Croatian enclaves in central Bosnia (Kiseljak, Kreševo, Vitez, Busovača, parts of Novi Travnik, Vareš and Žepče). Apart from the wounded, a majority of inhabitants include vulnerable groups: children (20.5%), women (41$) and sick (5.6%). They are subject to daily Muslim and Serbian attacks and deprived of almost any form of aid from international humanitarian organizations. In spite of all signed agreements and daily negotiations, Croatian side is prevented from entering these areas, BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces do not allow Croatian civilians to leave the area, and UNPROFOR units are unable to enter most of these areas. BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces consistently deny access to these areas to any humanitarian relief convoys or medical teams.

Concise chronology of events

As already pointed out, the recent tragedy of Croatian civilian population in the Central Bosnia and Northern Herzegovina is the result of deliberate and systematically planned total blockade of roads and communications performed by strong BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces. The following data serve to illustrate the concise chronology of Croatian-Muslim clashes and the fact that this blockade is aimed at the destruction and expulsion of Croatian civilian population:

The first clashes between Croats and Muslims in the Central Bosnia ocurred during the August 1992 in the area of Gornji Vakuf. One BiH Army unit (arrived from Zenica) and one small HVO unit (from Gornji Vakuf) were engaged in these clashes which lasted only one day. As a consequence, there were 6 killed HVO soldiers and 7 killed BiH Army soldiers. The negotiations followed and it was agreed that the joint control at check-points in the area of Gornji Vakuf and Novi Travnik should be established. In spite of what was agreed, at the beginning of October 1992 BiH Army forces unilaterally established the check- point in the village of Opara (between Gornji Vakuf and Novi Travnik) and in that way prevented the communication of one part of Herzegovina with the Central Bosnia. During the October 1992, several people got killed and a number of convoys were stopped and plundered by irregular Muslim forces at that check-point.

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Another clashes occurred at the end of October 1992 during the battle for Jajce (when BiH Army forces prevented HVO to militarily assist the surrounded town of Jajce). As a consequence, several soldiers got killed on both sides, while Jajce was occupied by Serbian forces and over 20,000 civilians were expelled from the area of Jajce and Kotor Varoš.

After that, the tensions and occasional incidents characterized the life in the area of Travnik. At the end of November 1992, strong units of BiH Army arrived in the area of Prozor. That led to the uprise of tensions and fierce fighting occurred in the area of Prozor. As a consequence, there were about 30 killed on both Muslim and Croatian side, and some parts of the town of Prozor were seriously damaged. The tensions remained high after those fightings.

In January 1993, fighting again occurred in the area of Gornji Vakuf. The units of BiH Army from Zenica, Travnik and Bugojno as well as HVO units from Gornji Vakuf and Prozor were engaged in these conflicts. More than 100 soldiers got killed on both sides, several villages were completely destroyed as well as some parts of the town of Gornji Vakuf. As a consequence, the communication between Herzegovina and Central Bosnia was almost completely cut off.

Around the middle of March 1993, BiH Army forces from Zenica and Visoko suddenly and fiercely attacked Croatian places and positions in the area of Busovača and Kiseljak. About 5 brigades of BiH Army were engaged in this conflict and as a consequence there was about 80 killed on both sides while the communication between Herzegovina and Central Bosnia (Kiseljak, Kreševo, Fojnica) remained completely cut off.

On March 25, 1993 strong BiH Army forces (3 brigades, one unit of Military police and several smaller units of BiH Police Forces) blocked the whole area of Konjic and Jablanica.

On April 15, 1993, strong BiH Army forces completely cut the communication between Busovača and Vitez.

Present situation

Intensive offensive military operations of BiH Army began in April 1993. Until the present (September 1993) BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces completely conquered over 50% of BiH territory which was supposed to be within the "Croatian provinces" according to the Vance-Owen plan. As a result, presently HVO controls only about 10% of the total BiH territory (although before the onset of clashes with Muslims HVO defended from the Serbian aggression and successfully controlled about 20% of the total BiH territory!). Furthermore, four Croatian enclaves (representing about 5% of the formerly Croatian-held territory) are being completely surrounded by strong BiH Army forces for over 4 months (areas of 1. Busovača, Vitez, Novi Travnik; 2. Kiseljak and Kreševo; 3. Vareš; and 4. Žepče and Usora).

ETHNIC CLEANSING OF CROATS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF KONJIC AND JABLANICA

EVENTS IN THE AREA OF KONJIC (April-June 1993)

According to the census 1981, the municipality of Konjic had 43.677 inhabitants, 11.748 of them being Croats (2.566 Croats lived in the town of Konjic - population 11.545).

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS: The war inflicted the area of Konjic on April 20, 1992 when Serbian paramilitary forces and Yugoslav Army started with attacks and shelling of Konjic and surrounding villages. As a result of one year of Serbian aggression, there were 6 Croatian soldiers (HVO) and 35 Croatian civilians killed in the area of Konjic. However, on March 23, 1993 BiH Army forces fiercely and unexpectedly attacked the whole Croatian population in the Konjic area. The first attack was launched at the Croatian villages of Orlište and Buščak, which were occupied by BiH Army forces and the fate of civilian population of these two villages remained unknown to us until the present - therefore, these civilians are presently recorded as missing persons.

The negotiations followed (mediated by UNPROFOR) and clashes stopped for a while; however, two days later, strong BiH Army forces (3 brigades, one unit of Military police and several smaller units of BiH Police forces) blocked the whole area of Konjic and Jablanica. Negotiations continued, but several civilians (mostly Croats, but some Muslims too) became victims of isolated incidents.

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On April 14, 1993, early in the morning, BiH Army forces fiercely attacked the area of the river Neretvica (this whole area is known under the name of Klis). The first attack was launched at the villages of Solakova Kula, the part of Buščak, and the village of Vratna Gora.

On April 15, 1993, the attacks were extended to encompass another villages in the area inhabited predominantly by Croats: Lukšije, Gornji Prijeslop, Donji Prijeslop, and Mrkoševice. At least 5 Croatian civilians were killed (e.g., two Croats were cruelly murdered while going to negotiate the burial of an elderly women - according to the written eye-witness testimony of one survivor from this area who managed to escape to the village of Seonica).

On April 16, 1993, early in the morning, the fierce and sudden attack was launched at the village of Trusina. The village was completely occupied within several hours, 17 Croatian civilians were executed together with 7 HVO soldiers (see below!).

On April 17, 1993, the attack was extended to the villages of Sultići, Goransko Polje and Butrović Polje. During this attack, one elderly Croat was shot while he was feeding a living-stock, while 10 HVO soldiers got wounded.

During the same period (April 15-17, 1993), BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces of the BiH Army completely took control over the town of Konjic; they have detained over 1,000 Croatian civilians and transported them to detention camps (Sports hall in the town of Konjic, Silos in Tarčin). A group of HVO soldiers and civilians (both Croats and Serbs) managed to escape from the town of Konjic and the village of Donje Selo and to reach the villages of Zaslivlje, Zabrde and Turija. About 1,000 civilians remained in this area and they were soon completely surrounded by strong BiH Army forces and cut off from the outside world. Furthermore, the BiH Army forces managed to completely encircle three more villages in the western part of the municipality of Konjic (the villages of Seonica, Ljesovina and Budišnja Ravan) - another 1,000 civilians were completely surrounded and left to the mercy of its enemy.

On April 15-16, 1993 BiH Army forces surrounded the village of Radešine (southwest to the town of Konjic). The fights for the village lasted until April 25, 1993 when HVO soldiers and a large group of civilians surrendered to the UNPROFOR. Namely, it was agreed during the negotiations at the highest level that defenders of the village should lay down their arms (under the supervision of UNPROFOR) and that UNPROFOR would guarantee the safe evacuation of civilians as well as the HVO soldiers to the area controlled by the HVO. HVO soldiers indeed surrendered, but UNPROFOR (Spanish batallion) calmly handed over both the HVO soldiers and Croatian civilians to BiH Army forces. BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces then detained all civilians and soldiers at the following two locations: a) the village of Čelebić (Serbian village burned already in 1992) and b) the village of Orašac - local school building.

During the same period (April 15, 1993 onwards) BiH Army forces managed to encircle the village of Vrce (population 300, Croats) defended by a small HVO unit. The defenders resisted until May 27, 1993 when they had to surrender. After that they were detained in the area of the village of Gornja Višnjevica. The attacks on the village of Vrce were so brutal that some civilians underwent a nervous break-down (e.g., one mother murdered her own 11-month-old baby, ran towards the fron line and got shot there by Muslim sniper). In order to force HVO soldiers to surrender, the commanders of BiH Army units captured the wife and child of one HVO soldier (Katica Livaja, the wife of Goran Livaja) and blackmailed HVO soldiers within the village that they would rape and murder her if HVO do not surrender. The BiH Army commander in question is in fact a former medical doctor (a specialist in orthopedics) from Sarajevo, dr. Safet Ćibo, presently a "war president of the municipalities of Konjic, Jablanica and Prozor" (he was appointed on this function by the President Izetbegović himself). We are in possession of personal testimony of Katica Livaja as well as a unequivocal magnetophone record of the conversation between the local BiH Army commander and HVO soldiers from Vrce.

45 CROATIAN VILLAGES RAZED TO THE GROUND: BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces occupied and completely destroyed 45 villages with a total population of 4,000 Croats (villagers either killed, detained or fled into surrounding mountains and forests), as follows: Lukšije, Mrkosovice, Donji Prijeslop, Gornji Prijeslop, Buščak, Parsovići, Gorani, Duboko, Oteležani, Gornji Gradac, Radešine, Vrci, Sultići, Goransko Polje, Gostovići, Trusina, Nevizdraci, Orlišće, Solakova Kula, Vratna Gora, Pajići, Ivanci, Trešnjevica, Lušci, Strgovnice, Šušanj, Treboje, Hondići, Dol, Zavratnice, Čelopeci, Ristići, Borovac, Dubravice, Kanjina, Ovčari, Bijela, Glavatičevo, Bjelinići, Jukići, Plauzi, Pokojište, Slavkovići, Požetva and Buljina.

ABOUT 4,000 CROATIAN CIVILIANS DETAINED OR MISSING: At least 2,000 are presently detained at several locations (detention camps: Sports hall in the center of Konjic, Čelebić, Tarčin, Orašac, Podorašac and Parsovići), while another 2,000 are recorded as missing.

BRUTAL MALTREATMENT OF DETAINEES: Muslim medical doctors commited grave breaches of both Geneva Conventions and basic principles of medical profession. Namely, at least 50 Croatian detainees from Konjic were forced at gun point to serve as blood-donors.

In Konjic, during two consecutive days, dr. Feriz Glamočak (Muslim by nationality, about 60 years of age) escorted by Emir Kovačić (officer of the BiH Army and the personal body guard of the director of the Medical Center in Konjic, Dr. Ahmo Jusufbegović) visited the detained Croats, selected several dozens of them; on the first day, he took their blood within the detention camp in front of all the other prisoners (they were forced at gun point to lay down on the ground and to expose their arms and Dr. Glamočak personnally took their blood). On the second day, they were forcefully transported to the nearby school and the same procedure was repeated there. The blood was taken from the following Croatian detainees: Dr. Zvonko Jurić (a dentist from Konjic), Pero Barunčić, Pero Šimunović (a wounded person!), Janko Jurić, Ivan Jurić, Vinko Krtić, Nikola Trlin, Bato Nikšić, Davor Jurić, Petrović (the witnesses did not know the names of the remaining detainees). Furthermore, during this entire time the detainees were very poorly fed and were made to do forced labor, including the digging of trenches at the front- line (see also enclosed Testimony KONJ-864).

A NUMBER OF EXECUTED CROATIAN CIVILIANS: On April 17, 1993 an elderly man was murdered in the **village of Sultići**; four elderly men were killed on March 23, 1993 in the **village of Orlište**; 3 civilians were killed by mortar shells in the **village of Vrci** and 1 civilian was killed in the **village of Budišnja Ravan**; the mother, sister and the aunt of the former HVO commander were sloughtered (their throats were cut) in the **village of Podorašac**; 7 Croatian civilians were burned alive in the house of Tomić in the **town of Konjic**. A number of civilians were killed during the BiH Army attack on the **villages of Buščak and Solakova Kula** on April 14/15, 1993 (presently inaccessible area).

The massacre of Croatian civilians in the village of Trusine near Konjic

On April 17, 1993 BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces have committed a brutal crime against 13 detained Croatian civilians and 7 Croatian soldiers (HVO) who surrendered in the **village of Trusine**. BiH Army forces abducted three little girls (Krešo Arijana, born 1991; Krešo Irena, born 1984; and Krešo Sandra, born 1991) and murdered their mother Krešo Luca (born 1964). After that, they took the children as hostages to the front line and threatened to kill them if their father and other members of family do not surrender immediately. Their father, Krešo Pero, surrendered but was shot immediately, while the others who surrendered were executed little later. Civilian victims of this massacre are as follows:

1. Krešo (Mirka) Smiljko, born 1940 (grandfather of children); 2. Krešo (Andrije) Velimir, born 1934; 3. Krešo (Jure) Ivica, born 1935; 4. Drljo (Ante) Tomo born 1926; 5. Drljo (Ilije) Andrija, born 1947; 6. Drljo (Ilije) Franjo, born 1936; 7. Drljo (Pere) Ivan; 8. Drljo (Ivana) Kata, a woman born 1918; 9. Mlikota (Andrije) Branko, born 1925; 10. Ivanković (Ante) Ilija, born 1926; 11. Ivanković (Jure) Anda, born 1936; 12. Andelić (Ante) Jure, born 1926; 13. Mandić Stipo

During the execution, BiH Army soldiers opened fire even on mothers who were bearing their small children; little girl Krešo Arijana was wounded by machine gun fire - she lost left hand fingers due to the bullet wound. According to the present information, two women have disappeared (Krešo Mara, a grandmother, born 1940; and Krešo Anka, born 1960, one of daughters of Krešo Mara).

CONCLUSION: BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces have committed grave breaches of international humanitarian law and Geneva conventions and committed a number of war crimes against the local Croatian population in the area of Konjic and Jablanica. As a result, there are presently no Croats in this region: all Croatian villages are razed to the ground, about 10.000 Croats are presently displaced persons or refugees, over 2000 Croats are detained in Muslim-held camps, while 2000 Croatian civilians are presently recorded as missing. Finally, our medical service has recorded over 250 killed and almost 600 wounded people (for further details, see enclosed eye-witness testimonies KONJ-974, KONJ-978, KONJ-979, KONJ-981 and KONJ-982). It should be pointed out that, as we already reported, Croatian detainees in Konjic (Sports Hall) were forced at gun point to serve as blood donors - this was recently confirmed by the ICRC whose representatives visited the detention camp in Konjic and obtained a first hand evidence on this dramatic example of human rights abuses (see also enclosed Testimony KONJ-864).

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The massacre of Croatian civilians in the village of Doljani near Jablanica

The village of Doljani near Jablanica (and its hamlets) are situated on the main humanitarian road connecting the central Bosnia with the Adriatic coast. The village is inhabitet exclusively by Croats. On July 27/28, 1993 BiH Army forces suddenly and fiercely attacked the village of Doljani and massacred 42 unarmed Croatian civilians, while approximately 200 Croatian civilians were captured, deported from their village and imprisoned. Local eye- witnesses (who were hiding on nearby hills) as well as several survivors (including the salezian catholic parish priest from Doljani) who managed to escape the massacre provided us with clear-cut testimonies concerning this brutal crime of BiH Army. Furthermore, after one week of occupation, HVO units managed to enter the village of Doljani - the village was found empty, there was no inhabitants, no families left. Unfortunately, the dead bodies of alltogether 42 Croatian civilians were found lying in their homes or homeyards. The dead bodies were transported to the Department of Pathology, Medical Center Split (Croatia), where the identification and autopsies of the deceased were performed. There is also a photo and videotaped documentation concerning that crime. Finally, UNPROFOR officers from the UNPROFOR bases in Tomislavgrad and Jablanica also visited the village and witnessed the results of massacre, including the transportation and identification of the dead bodies.

ETHNIC CLEANSING OF CROATS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TRAVNIK

Before the conflict, there were 35,000 Croats in Travnik (population: Croats 37%, Muslims 45%, Serbs 12%). At the end of May 1993 strong BiH Army forces concentrated around Travnik with the obvious aim of conquering the town and preparing the strategic attack on the area of Bugojno as well as on the area of Novi Travnik and Vitez. The attack started at the beginning of June 1993, the fiercest fighting occurred on June 4-6, 1993 and already on June 7/8, 1993 BiH Army forces conquered the whole area of Travnik. They completely destroyed a number of Croatian villages while Croatian inhabitants were either killed, detained or expelled. BiH Army forces then occupied the area of Guča Gora, desacrated the 800-years-old Franciscan monastery in Guča Gora, and continued to advance towards the villages of Nova and Stara Bila i.e., towards the Vitez and Novi Travnik. They also regrouped forces to lounch a massive attack on the area of Bugojno, Gornji Vakuf and Prozor.

The consequences were as follows:

Croatian population was so terrified by brutal crimes committed by members of BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces (mass murder of civilians, setting on fire whole villages with at least several hundreds of victims registered to date) that about 6,000 Croatian civilians were forced to flee to the Serb-held territory. About 4,200 of them were for several days located in no-men-land area of Turbe - they were in the hands of Serbs and managed to arrange to be evacuated to Banja Luka and then to Croatia. The remaining 2,000 Croatian civilians were wandering across the surrounding forests left at the mercy of BiH Army units and trying to reach the area controlled by HVO. Another group of about 10,000 Croatian civilians moved along the tortuous paths exposed to a constant artillery fire and snipers, trying to reach the Croat-held areas of Novi Travnik and Vitez. Finally, about 900 HVO soldiers were forced to surrender to Serbs (hoping that in this way they will at least survive) on the Vlašić mountain - they were detained in the Serbian-held camp of Manjača and several weeks later they were released in the exchange of POWs.

Summary execution of Croatian civilians and detainees in the village of Maljine near Travnik

About 40 Croatian civilians were brutally executed in the village of Maljine near Travnik - we have the list with the names of 32 of these victims. Furthermore, the remaining 350 Croats from that village were forcibly transported towards the Muslim village of Mehurići. Nothing is known about their fate and they are presently recorded as missing persons. For further details, see enclosed testimony of one survivor of that summary execution (Testimony TRAV-994).

Arbitrary execution of 3 Croatian civilians in the village of Jurići near Prozor:

On June 17, 1993 Muslim paramilitary forces entered the Croatian village of Jurići near Prozor and without any reason brutally murdered an elderly Croatian women, Anica Jurić (born 1905), as well as two Croatian children - Josip Jurić (born 1976) and his sister Marina Jurić (born 1979). For further details, see enclosed Testimony PROZ-980.

38 Destroyed and occupied Croatian villages in the area of Travnik:

Bukovica, Brajkovići, Bilića Dočić, Bilići, Gornji Dolac, Guča Gora, Jankovići, Ovčarevo, Paklarevo, Prići, Radića Brdo, Miškića Brdo, Vidoševići, Šipovik, Pirota, Bojna, Grahovik, Slimena, Radonjići, Radojčići, Han Bila, Donje and Gornje Čukle, Orašac, Miletići, Orlice, Zagrađe, Skomorje, Grahovčići, Konjevići, Osojnica, Pokrajčići, Zabilje, Čajdraš, Margetići, Gornje and Donje Pećine and Ruda.

ETHNIC CLEANSING OF CROATS IN THE AREA OF VITEZ, BUSOVAČA, KREŠEVO AND KISELJAK

Presently, BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces from Zenica and Visoko continue with fierce attacks on the completely surrounded towns of Busovača, Vitez and Novi Travnik, as well as the encircled towns of Kiseljak and Kreševo. They already occupied the town of Fojnica and a number of surrounding villages. Thousands of Croatian civilians in that area are completely surrounded and exposed to brutal aggression for over 4 months. Croatian civilians are unable to leave the area, and suffer from a constant lack of food and medical relief. There are over 2,000 wounded persons without adequate surgical treatment - however, BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces deny access to both UNPROFOR and Croatian medical teams and they systematically block any attempt to evacuate these woundees from the area. Furthermore, over 500 Croats were killed in this region.

Although at present we have no direct evidence, we received several reports that on June 5, 1993 a group of 30 Croats were summarily executed in the forest area called "Dumanja" near the locality of Busovačke Staje (along the road from Busovača to Gornji Vakuf).

THE REGION OF ŽEPČE AND USORA

There are about 60,000 Croats completely cutt off from the remaining Croatian corpus in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the region of Žepče and Usora (including the towns of Maglaj, Zavidovići and Novi Šeher). They have been exposed to constant and fierce attacks of BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces from Zenica for over 4 months.

The massacre of 43 Croatian civilians in the village of Kiseljak near Žepče:

A commando raid by BiH Army forces on the village of Kiseljak on August 16, 1993 resulted in 43 civilians being slaughtered. Witnesses saw several mujahadeen among the attackers. The victims were all civilians (mostly elderly and women) and many of them were executed using stabbing and slicing weapons. For further details, see enclosed Testimony ŽEP-1088.

Serbian strategy in the area:

At the same time, the Serbian propaganda machinery exploits the situation very efficiently and maliciously, pretending to help and assist the Croatian side in the "war against the Muslim fundamentalist threat". In reality, this is their subtle way of securing another norther corridor connecting Banja Luka with Bijeljina and Belgrade by stimulating the fighting between Muslims and Croats in this area. Namely, the Croats are completely surrounded and would probably be defeated quite soon by much stronger Muslim forces in this region - but this would expose Serbian forces to direct contact with the Muslim army and quite probably stimulate renewed fierce fighting for the northern corridor which is of vital importance for Karadžić's self- proclaimed state around Banja Luka. By artillery attacks on Muslim forces at selected strategic points, Serbs effectively prolong the infantry clashes between Muslim and

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Croat forces and then celebrate significant losses on "both enemy sides" (i.e. Croats and Muslims). Furthermore, by selectively allowing the free passage over Serbian-held territory for terrified Croatian civilians trying to escape to Croatia, Serbs achieve two political and propaganda goals: a) to declare themselves as compassionate and peace-striving people, ready to help anybody who is for peace and against the war and b) to claim that this is in effect a joint "christian" effort of Serbs and Croats to defeat "the Muslim fundamentalist threat" and to divide Bosnia and Herzegovina among themselves - it should be obvious that it is only in the interest of Serbs because in this scenario both Croats and Muslims would finally be exterminated while Serbs will establish a Greater Serbia on as much of the territory of BiH as possible.

ETHNIC CLEANSING OF CROATS FROM KAKANJ AND VAREŠ

During the June 1993, BIH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces expelled all Croats from the town of Kakanj and the surrounding villages. Consequently, there are about 30,000 Croatian civilians in the neighbouring small town of Vareš (15,000 of them being displaced persons from the Kakanj area). Already before the conflict Vareš was a poor city with about half of its population suffering from malnutrition. Presently the situation is even worse: there are no preconditions for the care for displaced persons, there is insufficient food and medical supplies; they are completely cut off and there is no chance to evacuate towards Croat-held territories in Bosnia and Herzegovina. All information from ground points to an imminent and fierce attack by strong Muslim forces from Kakanj and Breza - therefore, the total Croatian population there is presently endangered and helpless.

Destroyed and occupied Croatain villages in the area of Kakanj and Vareš:

Gornji and Donji Banjevac, Brnj, Crnač, Bukovlje, Plandište, Čatići, Poljice, Gora, Slapnica, Zajezda, Gornji and Donji Bištrani, Seoce, Bijelo Polje, Lukovo Brdo, Veliki Trnovci, Pavlovići, Papratno, Poljani, Kraljeva Sutjeska, Vukanovići, Gornja and Donja Lipnica, Klana, Ratanj, Kopjari, Gornja and Donja Borovica.

Serbian strategy in the area:

It should be pointed out that Serbs apply the same scenario in Vareš as in the region of Žepče and Maglaj. Namely, these are presently the only two regions in which Croats represent a kind of "buffer" between the Serbian and Muslim forces. Therefore, Serbs find a vital interest in preserving this "buffer" for their own sake: they avoid direct clashes with Muslims in this region and at the same time the number of their "enemies" is constantly being reduced in mutual fighting. Finally, by selected artillery attacks on Muslims from a safe distance (as well as by selective allowing of passage for Croatian civilians over the Serb-held territory), Serbs achieve the same political goals as already described for the area of Žepče and Maglaj.

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THE REGION OF MOSTAR

During the two consecutive massive, well coordinated military operations (June 30 and July 12, 1993), BiH Army and Muslim paramilitary forces succeeded to occupy about 50% of the Mostar region. It should be pointed out that members of HVO who are Muslim by tradition and who fought together with Croats against the Serbian forces for over one year in the same units, suddenly turned against their Croatian fellow soldiers (performing a sort of "internal coup") and thus significantly contributed to the present "military success" of the BiH Army forces (see enclosed Testimony MOST-973). Even a Muslim doctor (Samir Kreso), a member of HVO medical service, shot the father of his own ambulance driver, abducted the ambulance and medical equipment and joined the Muslim army forces (see enclosed Testimony MOST-995). However, it should also be pointed out that the majority of Muslims who attacked Mostar are NOT local inhabitants but Muslims previously expelled by Serbs from other parts of Bosnia and currently fighting for new homes and property (see enclosed Testimony MOST-993). Again, BiH Army forces committed a number of war crimes and grave breaches of international humanitarian law against the local Croatian population in suburbs of Bijelo Polje and Vrapčići (see enclosed Testimony MOST-977) and detainees (including the forced blood-giving by detainees - see below).

As a result, over 1,000 Croatian civilians were expelled from their homes, a number of civilians were killed and wounded while 200 civilians are presently recorded as missing. For example, only in the period from May 9 to May 18, 1993, Medical Headquarters of HZ Herceg-Bosna have recorded 35 killed HVO soldiers and 15 killed civilians, as well as 233 wounded HVO soldiers, 54 wounded civilians and 5 wounded BiH Army soldiers. BiH Army forces continue to plunder and set on fire the homes and property of expelled Croats and to terrorize the remaining Croatian civilians on the left side of the Neretva river (part of Mostar presently controlled by BiH Army forces). The clashes continued until the present.

Croatian detainees subjected to forcible extraction of blood:

At least 10 Croatian detainees from Mostar were forced at gun point to serve as blood-donors. Members of BiH Army forced Croatian detainees at gun point to go to the Epidemiological Ward ("Higijensko-epidemiološki zavod") in Mostar (left side of the river Neretva, controlled by BiH Army) and Muslim medical doctors employed there took their blood either in bottles or directly from their veins into the veins of wounded Muslim combatants. For example, Srećko Šarić was among those who were exposed to "vein- to-vein transfusion" and after arrival in the detention camp he was in a very poor condition and he claimed that they took over 800 ml of his blood. Unfortunately, witnesses were unable to reveal the names of the Muslim doctors responsible for that crime (see enclosed Testimonies MOST-865 and MOST-866).

BiH Army forces attacks on Croatian medical doctors and hospitals:

On May 9, 1993, Muslim forces have occupied the Medical Center in Mostar; they abducted 5 members of the medical and assisting personnel (dr. Zdravka Šarac, technician Arif Jelovac, and three ambulance drivers - Mumin Puce, Hazim Gosto and Stipe Medić) and took one ambulance. On May 10, 1993, dr. Šarac was released together with the ambulance driver Stipe Medić, while remaining three persons are still missing; Dr. Šarac was severely beaten and maltreated.

On May 12, 1993 around 10 a.m., ambulance driver Marko Bogdan (born 1936, from Mostar) was wounded by sniper fire (gun shot wound to the right foot) in the street of A. Šantić, while he was transporting a wounded patient - he somehow managed to escape to the safer area.

On May 12, 1993 another ambulance driver (Ismet Hubanić, born 1950, from Mostar) was wounded in the same street while he was transporting another wounded patient. He was wounded by a sniper bullet in the leg while he was driving and by another sniper bullet to the arm after he tried to escape. The ambulance itself was hit by a number of rifle bullets fired by Muslim forces.

Furthermore, on the same day (May 12, 1993) ambulance driver Mirko Naletilić Čupo (born 1960, from Mostar) was wounded by sniper bullet (gun shot wound to the neck) around 3 p.m. near the Catholic church while he was transporting the wounded combatant. However, he managed to reach the hospital (together with the wounded patient) - after that he lost the consciousness due to the shock and was surgically treated immediately afterwards.

On May 16, 1993 around 8 p.m. ambulance driver Ante Vučić (born 1964) was killed by one sniper shot to the neck and three sniper shots to the chest, while he was trying to transfer one severely wounded person from the Urgent Medical Care Station to the hospital. At the same occasion, another ambulance

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driver, Ante Bevanda from Mostar, was wounded while he was attempting to evacuate a wounded patient, too.

On May 12, 1993 three mortar shells launched by Muslim forces hit the old hospital building, causing a serious damage of Ophthalmology ward, ORL ward and Transfusiology Station. On the same day, Muslim snipers fired repeatedly at the Internal Medicine and Radiology Ward of the hospital on Bijeli Brijeg. Furthermore, one mortar shell hit the main entrance of the hospital, while several shells hit the close vicinity of the back entrance of the hospital on Bijeli Brijeg.

On May 17, 1993 Muslim sniper killed a woman S.N. (born 1935) in front of the psychiatry ward (presently a shelter for mentally ill patients who were previously expelled by Serbian forces from the village of Domanovići).

On May 17, 1993 Muslim forces launched 6 mortar shells on the Medical center - a serious damage was inflicted to the Dentistry ward and to the Laboratory.

The M.A.S.H. unit of Mostar has reported that out of 16 ambulances at their disposal, all have been damaged and 4 completely destroyed, while one ambulance was abducted.

On July 13, 1993 the Muslim forces ambushed in the village of Domanovići (along the road Mostar - Čapljina) the ambulance transporting a seriously wounded person to the hospital. The driver Franjo Bošković was immediately killed by the close-range machine gun fire, while the nurse Vesna Mijatović was seriously wounded.

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TESTIMONY KONJ-974

This statement concerns the Muslim attacks on the village of Vrci, in the municipality of Konjic, during the period of March 23, 1993 to May 31, 1993.

A few days before the Muslim holy day of Bajram, I along with my neighbours and relatives saw how the neighbouring Muslims in the villages of Lisičić and Memidžana were preparing to attack. They were digging trenches at specific locations and they were also setting up anti-aircraft machine guns (PAM's) and other weapons. They attacked on Bajram, and the attack lasted about 2-3 days. Already on the second day we were ordered not to open fire because some sort of agreement had been signed, we would only shoot when the Muslims advanced close to our positions (they were shooting as they advanced, of course), and we felt that our lives were being threatened.

For a certain period of time there was calm, but during this time I saw how the Muslims were reinforcing their trenches and bringing in stronger forces. During the attacks I personally saw that along with the local Muslim members of Zuka's units, there was the Handžar - a division from Kosovo, as well as many blacks and Arabs. I personally saw the corpses of members of Zuka's units, the Handžar division as well as one black and one Arab. During the attacks we were faced by hundreds of Muslim soldiers, and during the strongest attack there were about 400-500 Muslim soldiers involved. During the first days of the attacks I saw how the Muslims captured STANIĆ IVAN. I heard awful cries and screams which ended when I heard rifle shots. After 5-6 days I saw the corpse of a man whose arms had been cut off and he was slaughtered, his body was riddled with bullets. He was a civilian who was born in 1935. On the same day that they took STANIĆ IVAN they also took my mother K.S., born 1935, and I saw how they put her in front of them as a "living wall", I also saw how they shot her. They also killed my aunt K.A., born 1929 at the same time. After a few days my neighbours managed to recover the bodies of my aunt and mother and we buried them. They did not let me see the bodies of either my mother or my aunt, we buried them at dusk and the Muslim forces were shooting at the village during the burial.

During the first days of the attacks I saw how the Muslims were using 10 civilians, from the village of Pokojište, as a living wall. By using them they managed to set fire to houses in one part of the village of Vrci, amongst the houses were those of : L.C. , S.I. , S.B. , S.I. and K.S. . They attacked the village with mortars every day. Every day they would also attack with infantry, and these attacks would last about 4-5 hours. The civilians were living in shelters (there were 50 in one house) or in sod houses. There were many small children in the village (about 30-40). At the beginning of the attack the Muslim forces cut off our water supply so that we remained without water or electricity. When we ran out of ammunition we had to surrender, I remained in the village. The Muslim soldiers then took B.S. and man whose surname was C. . They threatened me as they did the other soldiers, they wanted us to show them where we were hiding our weapons and ammunition, but they did not beat me. The two of them took everything of value out of the houses, and then the rest of the soldiers pillaged the houses. I want to add that the Muslims also set fire to the houses of : R.M. , L.S. , S.M. , M.I. and S.Z. , these houses were set on fire in a similar manner to those mentioned earlier. When the Muslims were not watching me I managed to escape.

By signing every page of this statement I confirm it's authenticity and that this statement is given without any coercion and that the written statement matches the truth.

In Kostajnica, June 9, 1993.

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Testimony KONJ - 864

(professor of the politic science, Croat, born on 1951)

Before all of these events I was the member of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union) in Konjic and head of the office for social activities (social care, education, health service, emigrants and information).

On April 14, 1993 I was in Konjic and we heard that in Klis there was fighting between Muslims and Croats and that Muslims were bringing in Mujahedins. I had no doubt about that because the Mujahedins and other extremists in the Army of the Bosnia and Herzegovina had before 20 days burnt the village of Orlište and had killed 4 civilians (among the killed civilians there was Kostić ..... who could not walk). Because of fear we escaped from Konjic to the Croatian village of Orlišta (near Konjic) - the hamlet of Ovčari Vrbići. The others who left with me were the president of HDZ Konjic - DRAGUTIN PERIĆ and the head of the office of the local government of the community of Konjic - LJUBO ZOVKO. So, we were civilians, without weapons and we stayed in Ovčari at our friend's house A.A. civilian. The following day, on April 15, 1993, his mother woke us up at 6 a.m. because of shooting i.e. because of an attack by the Bosnian army and Mujahedins (we saw them later - they were present during our capture)

The people in the village panicked. Scared civilians started to arrive from the neighbouring villages of Podorošac, Borovac and Gornja Ovčara. They came there because the Bosnian army blocked the road towards Konjic the day before. We spent the day in Vrbići with civilians and other refugees. We slept in A.A.'s house again and the refugees who arrived were situated in other houses in the village.

On April 16, 1993, at about 5 a. m. gunshots woke us and we received the news that two soldiers in the HVO had been killed in the village of Borovac and one soldier in the village of Grad. It must be stressed that these three soldiers had been killed by Muslims in strongholds, facing the Chetniks, held by both the HVO and the Bosnian army.

Refugees were still arriving, nobody came to the village of Vrbići with weapons. All of them came in order to protect themselves from attacks by the Muslim army. Muslim units used weapons to force members of the HVO to leave the strongholds towards the Chetniks. Then we received information that the village of Grad was attacked and that the Muslim forces killed ILIJA AZINOVIĆ (about 30 years of age). Muslim forces attacked Croatian forces in the area of Konjic and the main targets of the attack were HVO strongholds Zlatar, Done Selo and Breber. We already knew that the Muslim forces wanted to control the Croatian population in Konjic. Before all these events we had found documents which confirmed this. The entire Croatian population retreated into the village of Donji Vrbići in an attempt to save themselves. More then 100 civilians - Croatians - escaped. The attacks by the Muslim forces became more violent. Perić, Zovko and I were situated in a garage where we spent the next two nights. However, the situation became more and more dramatic, people were looking to be saved so we decided to go towards Donje Selo.

I have to mention that all the phone lines for Croatian families were disconnected on April 14 1993. But the Muslims had telephone lines. We tried to contact the Muslim leadership but it was impossible.

On April 17, at about 8 p.m. we with the civilians, women, children, elderly persons towards Dugo Selo. On our way, Arapović (an old man) died from sadness because he had to leave his home. We also had to help the disabled civilians. I carried two small children because their mother was exausted. We walked over hills and across the forest and bridlepaths. We arrived in Donje Selo at 1 a.m., on April 18, 1993.

The people panicked, there were many Croatian refugees already there. We spent the night in a house. We were tired and hungry. The following day refugees continued to arrive. We were awoken by shooting. On April 18, 1993, early in the morning the attack on the village began. We discovered that only one phone line was still functioning and as the civilians were exausted and afraid Dragutni Perić made a phone call to the Muslim leadership. He spoke with Jasmin Guska - head of the Muslim police forces (composed only of Muslims) and with Zuka who was the leader of the Muslim forces.

I spoke too with Jasmin Guska who guarantied the safery of all the people who were in Donje Selo. Zuka promised the same thing to Perić. So, we agreed that the following morning all the civilians and soldiers of the HVO would gather in one place and that the soldiers would lay down their weapons which had been procured for both Croats and Muslims so that they could defend themselves against the Chetniks. They accepted these terms and gathered all the weapons and put

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white flags as a sign of surrender. The people felt relieved and they thought that they would not be persecuted any more. We were waiting for the following day to realise the agreement.

However, the following day, the commander of the Muslim forces, Zuka, asked from all the people who were in Donje Selo to leave for the Muslim village of Homolje. If they did not do it he would burn the village and kill everybody in the village. Perić told him that the women, children and elderly people could not walk such a long way (the village was half an hour away, by foot). One hour after our conversation, Muslim forces and Mujahedins arrived. I saw them for the first time.
There were about 20 soldiers of the Bosnian army and about 5 Mujahedins. They spoke Arabic amongst themselves. There were Muslim woman amongst them as well. The first thing they did was line us up near a wall, search us and take away all the money and gold we had. They took my wedding ring but they took everything from all the others. I had to take off the earings, rings and chains of my uncle's daughter and her two small children (twins of 7 months of age) because she was to scared to do it. They also took 3000 DEM from them.

The most extreme one was a Muslim women. She was saying that all Ustasha should be killed and that we wanted to share Bosnia. She was of average height, dark, she wore a uniform and she was armed with a machine gun.

There were more then 200 Croats. From the neighbouring hills snipers shot at us and they shot S.A.'s son who was captured as a civilian. They allowed us to take him and his mother to a hospital but on the way they they shot at his mother and she was wounded too. After they searched and took our money and gold, they separated the women from the men. We men, were taken to the village of Homolje.
They found out that amongst us there was an elderly man, who was Serbian by nationality (70 years of age). He was beaten in front of the women and then killed. While we were walking, we had to carry their weapons. After one hour of walking they allowed us to rest, near the village of Homolj. The soldiers of Zuka's units were already waiting for us. One of Zuka's soldiers ordered the separation of all the Serbs. Eleven (11) of them stepped out and were ordered to lay down on the road. The Serbs remained behind. They tortured and beat them. We heard cries of pain, hits and shots. The woman I mentioned was especially loud. As they were behind our back we could not see what had happened to them. We did not see them any more.

After that we arrived in the village of Homolj. We were situated in an unfinished house. On the morning of April 20, 1993 they recorded us. My name meant a lot to them because one of their members ordered a soldier to beat me, take me to Tarčin, strip my skin and kill me. They were very pleased that S. was my brother. He was a journalist and in their opinion he was breaking up Bosnia. This man was humiliating and cursing me. Then the soldier beat me and I fell unconsciousness. I expected that they would kill me.

After this all the other men and I were taken to the village of Podorošac. The women remained in the village of Donje Selo. We were forced to walk quickly the entire way, they were cursing us. In Podorošac I was called by name, I was proclaimed the "main Ustasha". They told me that I was worse then a Chetnik. Then we were loaded onto a truck and driven to Tarčin, a community of Hadić. In Tarčin we stayed in this truck for two hours, it was very hot. M.G. felt ill, we asked for water because he lost consciousness. However, they told us that if we said a word, they would kill us. The truck was full. After this we were brought into a silo in Tarčin where the Serbs had been detained before us. There we stayed for only half an hour. They again loaded us onto the truck and drove us to Konjic, to a hall. There our Muslim neighbours started to give us lectures about our alleged armed rebellion. Then they brought in, from the neighbouring room, about 20 prisoners, Serbs who were saying them that the Croats disunited the Muslim and Serbs and that they should fight together against the Ustasha. They were maltreating us physically and psycologicaly. I was beaten several times. My right ear still hurts and I do not hear well.

On April 20, 1993, Hamza (I think that his familiy name was Ajanović) from Muderize's unit entered the hall and maltreated Perić. He forced him to stand on one leg even though he knew that Perić had trombosis of the veins. He said to him: "I hope that you will eat your boiled children". At this moment JASNA DŽUMHUR, Muslim, entered the hall and supported Hamzo. She said that we would not get anything to eat. At that moment she was the president of the commission for exchange of prisoners.

The commander of the camp was BROČETA (I do not know his name). One of the guards, ĆIBO, knocked out Z.Z.'s tooth.

In the middle of May, EMIR KOVAČIĆ (the head of the Muslim security service) and bodyguard of dr. AHMO JUSUFBEGOVIĆ (the head of the health clinic) and dr. FERIZ GLAMOČAK, about 60 years of age, thin, came. He choose people in the hall and forced them to give blood. He ordered us to lay down, to expose our arms and then they took our blood. During the

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first day they forced 20 people to give blood. Mostly they wanted the blood group "O". The following day they kept on taking blood but this time the people were taken to the neighbouring school. I think that on that day they took blood from 30 people. In two days 50 people were forced to give blood. I remember the names of some of the people who were forced : Z. J., P.B., J.J., P., I.J., K.V., N.T., B.N., D.J. . I do not remember any other names.
During our entire time in captivity we were given very little food: about 90 grains of bread, 70-80 grams of rice divided between 7-8 prisoners. From time to time the food was spoiled. Prisoners were taken out for forced labour - loading trash, cleaning the city. Prisoners were taken to the front line and they had to dig up trenches, while they pointed weapons at them. Some prisoners were wounded. They took us out as a "living wall" if the other side shot at them. They told us that they would make this town a "pašaluk" (Turkish word for town), or their type of town.

We, the five members of the HDZ, were taken to meetings and brought back by the military police. The meetings were run by dr. ĆIBO SAFET, specialist in orthopedics. We were forced to agree with everything Ćibo Safet said.
On May 27, 1993, a HVO commision for negotiations and representatives of UNPROFOR (Spanish batallion) arrived. As the HVO insisted, dr. Ćibo gave me temporary permission to leave Konjic. Since then I am free. On May 28, I arrived in Mostar with UNPROFOR.

The statement is given of my own free will and without coercion. By signing each page I confirm the authenticity of the above written.

Čitluk, May 31, 1993.

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TESTIMONY KONJ-978

(a Croatian woman born on 1951, survivor of the massacre of Croatian civilians and captured soldiers in the village of Trusina on April 16, 1993)

Our area, our section of the municipality of Konjic, is populated primarily by Croats and Muslims. There are barely any Serbs there. Some villages have two or three Serbian houses, that is it. There are villages that are completely Croatian or completely Muslim, but there are mixed villages as well. The following is a list of such villages :

1. Croatian villages
    - Obri
    - Kostajnica
    - Falanovo Brdo
    - Bukovica
    - Obrenovac
    - Budišnja Ravan
    - Donje Višnjevice
2. Muslim villages
    - Gradac
    - Blučići
    - Gorani
    - Podhum
    - Seonica
    - Gornje Višnjevice
    - Čelina
    - Parsovići
3. Mixed villages
    - Trusina
    - Salakova Kula
    - Prijestop
    - Lukšije

When someone looks at the map, after the Muslim aggression and slaughter at Trusina, they see that, in village, we were surrounded by Muslims. To make things even worse, the ones who we believed, that is our Muslim neighbours from the village of Trusina, were the main organizers of what happened. I will give their names later.

We did not know, and our men did not believe that there would any sort of conflict against the Croats by the Muslim side, regardless of any existing suspicions. Already by the end of March, 1993, some events occurred about which we did not have full and complete information. The one thing we definitely did know was that the Muslims attacked the Croatian villages of Orlište and Gostoviće. I knew that the village of Orlište was attacked on March 24, 1993, and that it was the same way in Gostoviće. We also knew that the Muslims attacked the village of Seonica, but the HVO forces repelled that attack. One HVO soldier died in that attack. With regards to my village, Trusina, we knew from where they could attack. The arrangement of the houses is very specific. The Croatian houses are concentrated in one place with a spacing of 10-20 meters between houses. They are found on a hill. The same is true for the Muslim houses. Their houses were a little below us and a little above our houses, on a hill about 80-100 meters away. The Croatians were in the HVO while the Muslims were in the BiH army. At the beginning of the war there were Croats, Muslims and Serbs in the HVO. The Muslim army was formed later. If the attacks came from outside the village, the HVO forces would have probably repelled it. Nobody expected an attack from within. That was a mistake.

Somewhere around the beginning of April, 1993, some unusual things began happening around the village. Unusual is not the proper word, because what our Muslim neighbours were doing was preparing for a military action. They would say one thing and do something else. Our Muslim

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neighbours decided all at once to put boards over their doors and windows. We watched them, since they did this during the day. That happened at the houses which were facing us. It was obvious that they were preparing for something. I told this to my husband and he replied :

"Come on, you are always seeing things"
"They are frightened easily, nothing will happen"

The same thing happened the following day. When I mentioned it again to my husband, he did not want to talk about it anymore. So that day by day the Muslim part of the village began to resemble a fortress.

On the morning of April 14, 1993, a Croatian neighbour came to tell us that the village of Buščak was being attacked. After about one half hour we received more news, the village of Buščak had fallen. The Croats were surrounded in that village as well. There were Muslim villages on all sides, Kale, Parsovići and Čelina. When the news of the fall of Buščak began to spread around the village the situation became even more unusual. All the remaining Muslims who had not already barricaded their houses, began to do so. This was done by ZEJNIL, GOSTEVČIĆ and ŠAINOVIĆ SALKO. This lasted until the evening of the following day. By April 15, 1993, all of us were already in our basements. We did not have electricity so we lit candles. I went outside at about 22:30 and looked around. Everywhere I looked I saw peculiar lights in the distance. The Croatian houses had red lights and the Muslims houses had yellow lights. I quickly returned inside and told everyone of this. My husband said that I was always seeing things, but he did go outside to check. He went about 200 meters from the house and said that these lights were especially visible in the village of Radešina. We remained sitting there until about 23:30 and then we went to the first floor to sleep. I suspected that something bad would happen, but I did go to sleep after all, because I had to get up at 05:00 to wake up my eldest son. He had to be at his post at 06:00. It was like that. The younger one would come home from his watch and the older one would go to his. It was too early to get up so a laid in bed a little longer. I got up at about 06:45. I started the fire and went to the barn to milk the cows. When I finished I went back into the house and made coffee. I had just put the cups on the table and poured A. a glass of "rakija" when the shooting began all of a sudden. Bullets began to strike the building, the windows and the glass on the door was broken. My younger son came from his room and told us to get away. I did not know where to run to. They were shooting at the house from all sides. The shooting was so intense that we could not even go to the basement. It was obvious that the house was surrounded. You could not go outside and remain alive. We all grouped together in one room. There were six of us. A mortar shell fell nearby. All the glass in the house broke. My younger son jumped through the window when the shooting lessened a little. We also used that opportunity to go to the basement. About 10 minutes after we went to the basement, shells began to fall on the house. Then a shell fell directly on the house. After that it became quieter. After a few minutes of silence I heard my son D. calling :

"Mom, come out and surrender"

After that he jumped into the pig-sty and tried to escape. Just when the firing stopped, he went in front of the house and he wanted to escape into the hills. There were two armed Muslims there and they said :

"You cannot escape or we will kill you"

I decided that I was going to go outside. I took my daughter A. (age 9) with me. When I went outside I saw my son D. with his arms raised. A woman in uniform was holding a gun aimed at his back. Two other armed men were standing to the side. They were yelling at me to raise my arms. After that the others in the basement also came outside. It was awful. We saw a dead man laying on the road. It was DRLJO TOMO, his wife R. was coming towards us, crying.

"They killed my TOMO"

We quickly accepted her and tried to calm her down, because they were very nervous. They would have probably killed her as well, if we did not calm her down. There were seven of us there, of that there were 2 men, my husband and my uncle. They were constantly screaming at us :

"You are finished now"
"Trusina falls today, tomorrow it will be Buturović Polje"
"When we clean you out, then we will go to Kostajnica, there are a lot of Croats there"
"Budišnja Ravan and the other villages are surrounded and will fall by themselves"

And then they yelled :

"Where are your weapons and ammunition"
"You have to tell the truth"
"You cannot lie, or we will kill you all"

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We all remained quiet. We were not allowed to say one word. Then one of the two went to the corpse of DRLJO TOMO and put the barrel of the gun it's mouth. He then fired two bullets. This raised the dust and the ground became bloodier. Little A. began to shake from fear. Then one of them asked :

"Hey sister, are you scared ?"
"Yes, I am afraid"

Then they brought over M.B. and his wife R. . They now held 9 of us as prisoners. When they had entertained themselves with us, they began to take our personal effects. During this entire time I had a bag in which I had my wallet and personal documents. I also had my sons wallet. They took my rosary and stomped on it. I had 400 DEM in my wallet. They took that immediately. From the second wallet they took 80,000 HRD and then another 140,000 HRD. We endured it all. It became worse when they found my sons documents. When they first found it they began to ask questions about him. They kept their guns aimed at little D. the entire time. I did not want to say anything. Then one of them said :

"Go find him. Bring him here"
"If you do not find him I will do all kinds of things to your younger son"
"I will kill him and the little girl. But I won't use a knife"
"I will slaughter both of them"

He then showed me a large knife. The other one brought over a large butchers axe. The first one took the axe and said :

"See those trees over there. I will cut the little ones just like the trees are cut"

I began to cry. He would have surely done it. Then they took D. to a house where our boys were known to sleep over at. They quickly returned because they did not find anyone. There were two of them that I recognized. They were HAKALOVIĆ SEAD and HAKALOVIĆ MUSTAFA. They were already beginning to lose their patience. One of the said :

"Go find your son now. If you do not return in 10 minutes, it will be over for these people"

I went towards the hill. Once my son I. saw me he came over to me. He asked :

"Mom, what has happened"

I stood there and explained everything to him, while I was standing there K.P. , L.S. and K.N. came over. They said to I. :

"We will go down now that they have begun to take women and children prisoner, we will surrender"

All of them then went down to the house. They handed over their weapons and the Muslims began to question them. They first questioned L.S. and then the rest. When our boys had surrendered the female Muslim solider came over to me and said :

"Now that your son has come, the little girl will probably remain"
"I am not sure if the sons will live"

She was in uniform like all the rest, there were about 40 of them. Some were in black uniforms and some were in camouflaged ones. After she said that they forced us into the house. After 5 minutes they chased us out of the house and began threatening us. The women then said :

"Tudjman is responsible for all this"
"Our borders are closed, we have to do this"
"Today we will clean out Trusina and Buturović Polje"
"Tomorrow we will take Kostajnica, and then we will clean out everything to Mostar. And then we will clean out Mostar. And after we clean out Mostar we will go to Neum"

While she was saying this the others were talking on the radio. They were asking each other if everything was cleaned out. Then they pushed us into the house. Soon after that a Muslim came in and asked us about the village of Bare. I told him that the village was above Trusina and that it was fairly distant. Five minutes later the woman came in and started yelling :

"Why did you lie and say that Bare was above this village, when it isn't, it is below this village"

All of us repeated the same thing. She then went outside. They then started to talk on the radio again. We learned that they had two wounded. They probably wanted to evacuate their wounded. They asked if there were any of our soldiers around. We replied that there weren't. Then one of them said that it was safe and that they could go by car.

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They went crazy when then found out that they had wounded. They started yelling that they would kill 20 of our people if one of theirs died. They ordered us to make them coffee and pour them some "rakija". They began to smoke and drink. Then they suddenly ordered all of us out of the house, saying :

"Come out"
"Your Ustasha mother, now you will see"
"It is over for all of you. Now we will kill you"
"One of ours is dead and another is wounded"

We started heading outside when they changed their minds and returned us to one of the rooms. We remained in this room for some time. Then they came and chased us out again. Then one woman gathered enough courage and asked :

"What will you do with us ?"
"We will take the women and children to Parasovići, we need them for an exchange"

Then the woman came and said :

"All of you against the wall"
"Now we will kill you"

We stood against the wall and they aimed their guns at us. We all thought that it was over and that we had no hope. They separated the men and took them to another place. Only the women and children remained ; me and my two children, L.J. and her two children, K.B. and her two children, D.M. and her two children, and B.A. who was carrying her child. Then they said :

"Take the women and children away, we will leave them for later"

They then took us to the side of the house, and our men were lined up against the wall. Their backs were turned. Then they were executed. They were shot from behind at a close distance. All of them were killed. There were five of them altogether, they were :

- KREŠO NEDILJKO
- KREŠO PERO
- MANDIĆ MILE
- BLAŽEVIĆ ŽELJKO
- DRLJO IVO

We were all watching this. It was awful. I began to cry. I could not control myself. My people tried to calm me down. They pleaded with me to stop so that the Muslims would not kill us as well. When they were done they took us, as a group, through the village. We came to a house. There was a young Muslim there, I think it was the brother of the Muslim who died. He was about 13 to 14 years of age. He was not older than that. When we arrived the head man went to talk with the boy, he said :

"My condolences on your brothers death"
"Here are some civilians, do with them what you want"

The young man was crying, and when he calmed down he said :

"I can't, nor want to kill anyone"
"My brother is gone. My brother is dead"

He started to cry again. The other one again said :

"Do what you want to the civilians. Here is a gun and kill them"

The young man continued crying and saying that he could not kill anyone. He was smaller then my son and he had blonde hair. He just kept crying.

When they saw that the young man did not want to kill anyone they chased us into another house. Suddenly there was shooting from my house. One of the Muslims came out of my house and he was carrying my husband's gun. A. received the gun when the Muslims attacked Gostoviće. My husband was not there. Only then did D.R. tell me that my husband had been killed. She said that A. was laying dead in the hallway, a bullet took away half his head.

Another man was killed in my house. It was LJUBIĆ STIPE. It happened like this. When our boys surrendered one Muslim soldier separated STIPE from the group and ordered him to :

"Hey Moustache , you were a policeman. Go to Buturović Polje and get the men in the HVO to surrender"

He was in fact a policeman. We thought that they would let him go to Buturović Polje because the people in the village knew him. But it was a trick. One of their men took him to my house and executed him by shooting him in the back.

All these events occurred within the span of 2 hours. It happened from 08:00 to about 10:00 in the morning. So that all of the things that I mentioned occurred during a 2 hour time span. They managed to commit all these crimes in such a short time period.

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They did not know what they were going to do with us. They took some boxes of ammunition from our house. The female soldier was insisting that they kill us, but the man in charge would not allow it. He used us to carry the ammunition boxes. They forced us to walk towards Gostovići. It was about 14:00 of the same day. We were walking in front of them and behind them, the Muslims (about 40 of them) were in between us. We were used to carry the boxes, but they also used us as a living wall, in case our troops tried to attack them. Rain was falling and we were tired, so someone asked if we could stop for a little while. They did not allow it, only when we reached some small barn did they allow us to sit down. It was 16:00 already and they again contacted someone on the radio, to ask what they were going to do with us. The man on the other end told them to return us to our village because it was becoming dark and then it would be dangerous. He said the following :

> "Take them back to where they came from. There is no room in
> Gostovići, and you cannot go to Parsovića before nightfall"

I now recognized another two of them. They were PADALOVIĆ SEAD and POTOROVIĆ SEMIR. When we returned they said :

> "Get into the house, no one can be missing. If someone leaves all the
> others will die"

One of the women then said that we should go to a Muslim house because it would be safer. We did not want to do this. We thought that if we were to die it would be better to die in our own houses. We went to the house of K.N. . Now we were afraid that a new group might find us. They were constantly watching us. D. went home to change his clothes and that is when we found out that they killed LJUBIĆ STIPO in our house.

The Muslims also killed MLIKOT BRANKO (born 1925). He was an older man, he also had a pistol. He gave them the pistol. When he gave them his money, they shot him with his own pistol. He was receiving a pension, and since he had not gone to pick up his money for a while it kept adding up. He had around 3000 DEM. At around 17:00 K.M. came and he told us that the following had been killed :

- DRLJO TOMO
- DRLJO KATA
- DRLJO KATA (mother)
- DRLJO IVAN
- KREŠO VELJKO
- KREŠO SMILJKO
- KREŠO IVICA
- IVANKOVIĆ ILIJA
- IVANKOVIĆ ANĐA

They were all killed in or around their houses.

I heard the Muslims fighting amongst themselves. The reason was that the ones who came from the outside did not find the amount of money they were expecting. Our Muslim neighbours must have promised them a lot of booty. They came there to pillage. They lied to each other. As I already said, one of the Muslims took 400 DEM from my bag. Later when another Muslim asked him how much he found in my bag, he replied :

> "Poor thing, there wasn't even 100 DEM"

It was like that. I recognized a lot of the Muslims, they were from the villages of :

- Gradac
- Parsovići

There were some from Konjic.

The woman was called MEIRA. She worked somewhere as a waitress. The boys recognized her. The one in charge from the village was MEMIĆ SMAIL. But all the others in the village were also involved.

Since the ones who came in from outside were disappointed, because they did not manage to steal as much as they expected, they gave us to two local Muslims so that they could watch us. They were ŠAINOVIĆ ALMIR and POTOROVIĆ REDŽO. They made us walk to edge of the village, the edge towards Buturović Polje, which was held by the HVO. As we were passing by our houses, they yelled :

> "Don't let the children see the dead"

It was the bodies of Croats, civilians, who were killed near their houses. The Muslims killed them when they exited their houses. There was DRLJO TUNJO and his wife KATA, they were lying side by side in front of their house. IVANKOVIĆ ILIJA and ANĐA were found the same way. I told them, regardless of the danger :

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"Our children saw how you killed their fathers"
"Don't fear for our children"

As we passed one house, we saw a Muslim fighter from Sarajevo. He said that we should go towards Buturović Polje. We did know if he was going to shoot us in the back, but we knew that we no longer had any sort of life in Trusina. We headed out and fortunately no one shot at us. We reached Buturović Polje and crossed over to Kostajnica by boat. We stayed there 19 days. On May 7,1993 we walked towards Bokševice. We made it to Tomislavgrad and then Zagreb.

By signing every page of this testimony, it's giver and recorder confirm that the written matches the truth and that the testimony was given without coercion.

In Zagreb, July 5, 1993.

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TESTIMONY KONJ-979

(Croatian woman born on 1965, a survivor of the massacre of Croatian civilians and captured soldiers in the village of Trusina)

I lived in the village of Trusina, in the municipality of Konjic. There were about 30 houses in our village. Trusina was a village of mixed ethnicity. There were a few more Muslim houses then Croatian. I think it is important to mention that in this entire region of Klis there are no Serbian villages. I am thinking only of our area. There are only Croatian and Muslim villages here and they are quite mixed. So there are no Serbs in this area. There may be a Serb house here or there, but they are the exceptions. The Serbian villages are on the other side of Konjic. I will now give a list of which villages were ethnically clean and which ones were mixed. It was like this :

1. Villages with a Muslim majority in population
   - Blučićo
   - Perasovići (2 or 3 Croatian houses)
   - Čelina
   - Kale (2 or 3 Croatian houses)
   - Kruščica
   - Dobričevići
   - Slavkovići
   - Jasenik

2. Villages with a Croatian majority in population
   - Kostajnica
   - Obri
   - Falanovo Brdo
   - Bukovica

The other villages were mixed. This includes most of the villages. Amongst the mixed villages were :

- Solakova Kula
- Trusina

There were more villages like this. In Trusina the Muslims moved in from Višnjevica. There were no problems with the Serbs because there simply were not any Serbs there, there were only a few houses in Gradac and Gostovići.

About a year ago mortars began to fall on Konjic from the villages above it, where the Serbs were. But these places were far from us and therefore did not affect us. As the battles with the Serbs developed, our people organized into the HVO. It was the same way for the Muslims. Only later did they organize their Muslim army (BiH army). The HVO had positions above the villages and the Muslims had positions above those of the HVO. In the beginning they even held the positions together, but later the Muslims withdrew from these arrangements. The way to the village was completely open with the above-mentioned defense positions above the village. Before the attack on Trusina we had heard that the Muslims had already killed many Croatians, we heard that the Muslims had attacked the village of Gostovići and killed 9 Croats. We also heard that these same Muslims also attacked the village of Orlište and did the same thing. It was obvious that the residents trusted them. I think that the Croats of Gostovići trusted the Muslims of Gostovići. That was their mistake. The Muslims were saying the following when they returned to their positions above the village :

"We believe you"

"Believe in us. We won't shoot at you, so don't shoot at us"

Our neighbours in our village told us this. While they were saying this they were preparing an attack on Trusina from two directions. Their first plan was to attack us from within, that is from within the village. The Muslims were also preparing the conditions for an attack, they brought in unknown people to their positions above the village. These people wore black and camouflaged uniforms. There were many of them. The best proof that the attack was planned for a long time is the speed at which it occurred, it was lightning fast. Everything was over in about 2 hours. So that I wouldn't

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speak to broadly, I will give a detailed description of chronology of events before, during and after the attack on Trusina.

The entire battle was expected from the end of March. That was when they committed the atrocities in Gostovići and Orlište. It became even more tense after the slaughter in Buščak. That happened on April 14, 1993, two days latter, that is April 16, 1993, Trusina was attacked. Regardless of the previous slaughters, our boys were caught off-guard by the attack from within. On the morning of the 16th, my husband went to the defense positions where the HVO was keeping watch. I remember it as if it were yesterday. It was around 08:00 in the morning. There was no shooting and it was quiet. We only knew that two days earlier there was shooting in Buščak. It was very quiet, too quiet. When I looked around the village I saw Croatian houses. I saw Muslim houses as well but their windows were boarded up. Behind the boards we could see the faces of the Muslims who were watching what we were doing. It was obvious that they were planning an attack in the morning, when everyone was still in their houses. This proved to be correct.

Somewhere around 08:00 I left my house and went towards the house of K.B. . she called me to come over for some coffee. It was the house next to mine. I entered her house, we talked for a little while and then it all began. I was not in her house for more then 5 minutes before shooting started from all sides, as if on command. They were using guns and machine guns so that we could not leave the house. I wanted to go to my own house because of the children, but I could not. We sat down in the hallway. The shooting became worse. Bullets were striking the walls of the house, they broke the windows and door. We went from the hallway to the kitchen. We constantly went from room to room depending on which room was being shot at more. From the kitchen we saw how a mortar hit one of the neighbours houses. We quickly returned to the hallway. I was constantly thinking of my children, but I could not leave the house because it would mean certain death. It was awful. I was thinking about how I would go to my in-laws house, but it was impossible. They would have surely killed me if I tried to go through the door. When the shooting lessened we heard a scream from the bushes where our boys in the HVO had their positions. I carefully looked through the window. I saw a man in a blue shirt trying to surrender to someone. He was standing with the arms above his head. Then I saw how the unknown attackers (we still did not know who was attacking us) were chasing someone through the yard. The man ran for a while but the soldiers in the black uniforms caught him and killed him with their machine guns. The man who surrendered was B.Ž and the man who was killed was DRLJO ZDRAVKO. I also managed to see that there was shooting from the Muslim houses towards the Croatian houses. We still could not comprehend everything that was happening but we could see that they were occasionally shooting at us out of the barricaded Muslim houses. I say occasionally because the black uniformed soldiers were already going into Croatian houses, and the Muslims wanted to make sure that they would not shoot their own men.

When I looked through the window again I saw many soldiers in black and camouflaged uniforms. They were going from one Croatian house to the next, they were pillaging them. First they would fire at the doors and windows and then they would enter. They did this to the house of DRLJO TUNJO. They kicked open and broke the door, then they entered the house and began shooting. In the house there was DRLJO TUNJO, his wife KATA and mother KATA. All of them were later killed. They then ran across the stream to the house of D.A. (it is important to mention that the Muslims in the houses would stop shooting when the black uniformed soldiers went from house to house). It was now clear that they were working together and that this attack was planned. In D.A. there were my two sisters, of who one was the wife of B.Ž. . At that moment I recognized one of the Muslims, he was POTOROVIĆ SEMIR. Now everything was clear to me. The next house in their order was K.Š.'s . They went through the same procedure at his house. At the same time another group came to the house of K.B. , where we were. Someone outside yelled :

"Come out, all of you"

We answered that there were only women and children here. That was the way it was. There were K.B. , her sister J. and her children. The children of K.B. were also there. My children were at my grandparents house. We then heard a scream from the house of K.Š. . the soldier in front of our house thought that something had happened to the men that attacked K.Š.'s house. So he said in a scared voice :

"Now I will kill all of you if something happened to him ! "

Luckily for us, that man called out from the other house, so the one who was guarding us calmed down and said :

"It is okay, I will not kill you"

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In fact that was their tactic. They would yell and scream the entire time they were attacking the houses. Probably to scare us even more. They lined us up against a wall and we waited. The soldier kept his gun pointed at us. I could not wait any longer and asked him :

"Please, can I go find my children ? "

And he angrily replied :

"Don't beg to me, I am not God !"

"Now I will kill you ! "

I had to return to the wall. All my people were telling me to be quiet or else he would kill me. After a little while another Muslim showed up. He looked more important then the one who was watching us. I gathered my courage and asked him about my children. I asked him even though I did not know if he would kill me. He looked at me and ordered one of his men to follow me, so that his men would not kill me. I did not recognize any of these people. They were all in black or camouflaged uniforms, they were adorned with various things. They had black bands. On their belts they had pistols and knives. While I was walking down the road he followed me. There were about 50 of them. The first thing I saw was the body of dead man, it was lying face down. It was covered in blood. It was KREŠO VELJKO. As I walked through the village I looked around and saw the broken windows and door and the bullet tracks on the wall. The soldier followed me the entire time. Finally we came to the house. As a result of what happened and because I was still nervous, I thought that I could not enter through the door because it looked onto the Muslim positions above the village. I wanted to enter through the window. Through the blinds I could see the bloody body of KREŠO SMILJKO as it was lying in the hallway. I still wanted to enter through the window but the soldier yelled :

"Go through the door, I will protect you"

Once I entered through the door I saw the corpse of KREŠO SMILJKO. The hallway was full of blood. I stepped over the corpse. I went into a room, but it was too dark so I had to return to get a flashlight. I returned to the room and started calling out for my mother-in-law. No one answered. Everything in the room was thrown about, blankets and quilts were on the floor. I thought that they killed everyone and covered them with blankets. The soldier who was following me said :

"Don't be afraid, we did not kill the woman and children."

After I searched the house and basement I saw that there was no longer anybody there. Then we went to the house of K.I. . That was where they collected all the people from the village. But the people I was looking for were not there either. Then the soldier guarding me asked some other soldiers about my children. They replied that the woman and children were in two Muslim houses in the village. We went to the first house. It was the house of wife of K.I. . She directed me to the other house. I heard screams and cries from that other house. When I opened the door I saw my mother-in-law, sister-in-law and the children. There were some other women and children in the house as well. Little A. was wounded in the arm, she was behind the bed when she was struck in the thumb. We managed to bandage her hand. They put me in the same room with them. There were about 30 of us. We managed to start a fire. In this house they beat some women until they gave up their money. That evening the brother of PADALOVIĆ HALID, came and said that they would take the little girl to be bandaged in the morning. He threatened to kill any of us who tried to leave. We asked if he could at least give us some water. He allowed this and said that we could go to the bathroom as well. We stayed there the entire night, until the following morning. BEGETA ENES came later on. He worked in the medical clinic in Butrović Polje. He was taken prisoner by the HVO, but when they heard that some of us were wounded they exchanged him under the conditions that he come and look at who was wounded in Trusina. He looked at little A., bandaged her hand and said that she had to get to a hospital quickly. After that some of our Muslim neighbours came. POTOROVIĆ ŠERIF was there. He kept asking if we needed anything and he said that he was sorry that it had come to this. That was not the truth because they were all the same. They all planned the attack on us. On Saturday they brought milk for the children and some food. We then learned that they had killed all of our people that were in the HVO. They did that in a specific manner. At the house of D.M. they found the military book of her son. They then sent her to HVO positions to get her son, they said that they would kill his little sister A. and brother D. . After that our boys surrendered, that is those that were married and those that had children. My husband was among them. Six of them were not killed immediately. They waited until their families arrived. They then lined them up against a wall and executed them. They did this in front of the wives, children and parents. It was over in one hour.

The Muslims held us prisoner because they needed us for an exchange. We were kept prisoner for two days. On Sunday they told us that after they made a list, we would be free. We then left the house in a group. We only took what was necessary and went towards the edge of the village.

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We saw MANDIĆ STIPE dead on the road. Our side accepted us at Butrović Polje. We waited until nightfall and then we were transferred by boat to Kostajnica. After 20 days we were transferred from Kostajnica to Tomislavgrad and then to Zagreb.

I want to mention once again that it was our Muslim neighbours who attacked us and that every one of them was involved. They brought in others from outside and committed this crime. During their criminal activities they killed my husband and father-in-law. In the beginning we did not know who attacked us, but we later found out. I recognized some of our Muslim neighbours who were among them. They were :

- POTOROVIĆ AZEM and ŠAĆIM
- PADALOVIĆ SEMIR (from Gostovića)
- MEMIĆ SMAIL
- MEMIĆ EMIR (an older man who asked if he could search in the gardens for our men when they were surendering
- ŠAHIĆ SEJO
- ŠAHIĆ ADEM
- ŠAHIĆ ŠAĆIR.

By signing every page of this testimony, it's giver and recorder confirm that the written matches the truth and that the testimony was given without coercion.

In Zagreb, June 29, 1993.

TESTIMONY KONJ-981

(Croatian woman from the village of Donje Selo near Konjic, now a displaced person in Medugorje)

I cannot remember the date, I have lost track of time. I remember the day of the attack on Donje Selo. On the second day of the attack I was in my house with an old lady who was displaced from Ovčara. In the afternoon, five Muslim soldiers came into the house and greeted us with a Muslim salutation. There faces were painted, like Indians, with war paint. By the way they talked and by the colour of their skin, the skin that was not painted, and by their general appearance we could tell that they were Arab mudjahadins. One of the soldiers spoke in our language, he had a beard, he looked like the rest, he said that his name was Muhammed. They searched the house, they said that they were looking for guns and pistols. I had two of my husbands hunting rifles and I gave the guns to them. Since there was an old lady with me who had been paralyzed by a stroke, Muhammed said that we could stay and that we did not have to go to where they were collecting the other civilians. They left my house and went towards the other houses. Five additional groups of Muslims came into my house that day, that is until nightfall. The first three groups were composed entirely of Arabs, there were five soldiers in each group and only one would be able to speak our language. All the groups would search the house and ask if we had any weapons. The fourth group was composed of men form Sandžak, they did not look like the Arabs, they yelled and searched for weapons and they asked me where my husband was and why I did not know where he was.

In the final, fifth, group I recognized two of the soldiers, I do not know their names, I think they were from the village of Alijaći, where the local Muslim headquarters is. One of the soldiers acted like he found a box of pistol ammunition but I know that I did not have that box because I did not have a pistol or the ammunition for one. He held the ammunition in one had and said "See, she has a pistol" to which I replied "I do not have a pistol". He said "If I find a pistol in this house I will kill you and set fire to this house". When they did not find a pistol they went to the place where the civilians were grouped. I looked through the window as much as I was allowed, I heard the cries of women and the screams of children as well as the yells of Muslim soldiers. I saw how the separated the men from the women. I saw how they led the men away and when I could not see them anymore I heard gunshots, I thought that they were all killed. Latter I heard that only VUKOSAV PERO was killed there. His corpse was found by K.J., it was on a pile of manure in front of a barn. When it became dark, the old woman (she later went back to Ovčara) and I locked ourselves in the house. The next day groups of 2-3 Muslim soldiers again came to search the house. I did not see them take anything away, but I am sure that they did take things. When I came to the house things were always missing : electronics, appliances, valuables, clothes, coffee and cigarettes. During the night they took all my food, I remained without anything, not even a clock. We had to report to their command every two hours, my sister-in-law and I, because we were the only ones left in that part of the village. They set up their command in the house of J.N. She remained there. Since every two hours I was at her house or she was at mine, they would take things out of the vacant house. Once when I was at my sister-in-laws, three Muslim soldiers .... one of them nudged the other and said : "That is hers". When I turned around he said to the other one : "Why won't I, when her husband is an Ustasha, who cares for him!".

I was not allowed leave, my sister-in-law was sometimes allowed to go into the town to see her husband who was in the prison on the Musali in Konjic. A majority of the soldiers had patches with lilies on them and markings of the BiH army. During a day in May, I think, I saw the houses in Zabrdja burning. They were Muslim houses. They changed shifts in the morning and one of them went into my sister-in-laws kitchen. When I went from one room into the kitchen I saw three to four of them in the kitchen and I said "Good morning". Instead of a greeting I was hit. The one who hit me said " You say you do not know where your husband is, and your husband is setting fire to houses and maltreating Muslims". Later I learned that the other man was from Podorašca, he had black hair, and he was of average height. He told me to get out of my sister-in-laws house, to give him our keys and that we had to report every two hours. We gave them our keys and went to my house. Two days later when that shift left, we received our keys, and there was nothing remaining in the room in which we slept, that is they took everything. We did not want to go anywhere without telling them where we were going first. Looking through the windows we saw the houses in the village, they looked awful. They were ransacked and the windows and doors were covered in bullet holes, various things, and especially holy things were thrown out of the houses, holy pictures, crosses and other religious items were broken.

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One day I crossed a stream to go to a neighbour who collected cut hay. He told me that my husband was hiding nearby, that he came to get me. I went to where he was hiding and I found my husband, we went to Zabrdja, then Stolac and finally came here.

By signing every page of this testimony I confirm it's authenticity and accuracy, and that this testimony was given without coercion.

In Medjugorje, July 7, 1993.

TESTIMONY KONJ-982

(a Croatian woman from Konjic, another survivor from Donje Selo, now a displaced person in Medugorje)

After the provocations and attacks by the Muslims in the entire Konjic region, relations were tense in our village of Ovčara, a village at the exit of Konjic towards Sarajevo. In the village there was about equal Muslim and Croatian populations. We did not believe that it would get any worse then that "cooling" of relations.

But at 09:00 on April 15, 1993, events occurred that showed of the evil to come. It began with the establishment of military checkpoints which stopped all types of movements and this is where the first battles began. Soldiers and officials from the local HVO came to the village and said that all the women and children should hide in the basements. There was shooting in the village already. Snipers were shooting everywhere and it was impossible to go anywhere. The bullets were coming from the direction of the village of Repovici, which was higher then our village. The house in which we were living was at the end of Konjic and the beginning of Ovčara. Since the shooting lasted the entire day, all of us had become hungry. My son S. (age 14) went to the neighbours house for some bread at about 16:00. A sniper shot at him when he left and when he returned. He was lucky and was not hit. The bullets stuck in the wall above his head. Occasionally soldiers would come by and try to give us courage, they said that they had contacted the brigade and that help, in the form of soldiers, would be arriving first in 4 hours and then in 24 hours. We knew that it was a difficult situation because the line of defence towards Konjic was manned by about 20 soldiers. We spent the night in the basement, there was shooting all about. There were 15 children and 5 women in the basement. The shooting continued on Friday. Our soldiers had disarmed the Muslim soldiers and held them in a school, but after 4 hours A.I. gave the order for their release. AZINOVIĆ ILIJA, a member of the HVO died in battle in Ovčara. At around 21:00 on April 16, 1993 the first group of displaced people began to arrive in Ovčara, they came from the surrounding villages of Kanjina and Živašnica. The soldiers were claiming that Muslim reinforcements were arriving, that our villages were falling one by one and that we would have to retreat, but we managed to stay in the basement that night. On Saturday April 17, 1993, we were still debating whether to retreat or not. A definite decision was made latter that night, around 21:00, by A.I. everyone in the village was nervous. It was decided that we were to go in groups towards Donje Selo. The first group left at 01:00 on Sunday April 18, 1993, and the second group left one hour latter, and we left at about 03:00 in the morning. There were about 20 of us in the group. About 100 meters after the river Trešnica, we found the body of a dead man. I recognized him. It was ARAPOVIĆ IVAN, from Vrbića, about 65 years of age. It was obvious that his heart gave out due to the effort. We began to panic. We did not know the way. I could not carry my son any longer (age 2), so I gave him to my neighbour R.Z. I was too scared to carry him. The only soldier who was with us, B.M., went ahead to get in contact with our forces in Galjevo and Repovici. He returned and said that no one was there, that the civilians and soldiers had gone. It was about 03:30. Since we did not the way and we did not where whose army was we went through some bushes. K. (age 10) lost her shoe. My son S. put T. (age 2) under his jacket so that the bushes would not scratch him. We wandered around and found a very muddy stream. Due to the dark we crossed this stream two times during our wanderings. We came upon two of our soldiers who were on watch at the village of Breber. They said that they were there the entire night because there was no one to replace them. It was close to dawn. One of them took us to Donje Selo. When we were leaving that place we were spotted by the Muslims and they began to shell us. The soldiers said that they were using 60 mm. and 82 mm. mortars. They were also shooting at us from the direction of Homolja. We threw ourselves into the nearby bushes among the cries of the women and children. The soldier managed to group us together and took us down to Donje Selo on the banks of the Neretva river. We arrived in Donje Selo at around 05:30. At around 09:00 they found us accommodations in different houses. They were constantly shooting on us in Donje Selo from the high rise at the exit of Konjic. The high rise was about 300 meters from us. There were shots and gunbursts, the soldiers said that it was a "sower of death (gatling gun)". The bullets were breaking pieces off the facade and bricks. Mortar shells were falling on our position in the upper part of the village. During the day, passage over the bridge (the old railroad bridge) was impossible because it was constantly under sniper fire. There was one row boat that the people used

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to get across the fast river. It went slowly because the Neretva river was very fast at that point and it was over 20 meters wide, and it was known that during the summer the water is so cold so that swimming was not possible. Some men did try to cross despite the snipers, fast water and whirlpools. Five or six of them died before they managed to cross, one was JURIĆ DARKO, one by the nickname of "TENŽERA", NIKŠIĆ, I think, SLAVKO and the other I did not know.

At around 10:.00 on Sunday we saw that all of us could not cross. There were about 400 civilians and some soldiers remaining in the village. The others were in the surrounding positions. At 10:00 the president of HDZ Konjic, P.D. and Š.I. tried talking on the telephone with GUSKA JASMIN, the chief of the Konjic police and the deputy for ALIŽPAGA ZUKA. They said that the Muslims were demanding that the women and children carry the men's guns and that the men go with arms raised towards the Muslim village of Homolja. The people did not want to do that. At around 12:30 they went to talk on the telephone with the deputy for ALIŠPAGA ZUKA and he said that they would kill us all if we did not surrender to the GUSKA's and his army. It was decided that we stay. The Muslim said that we had to report every half hour, by telephone. At around 14:00 a white flag was put on the highest building in the village. Soon after that a frightened woman came into the village. She gave her name and surname but I cannot remember them, and she then answered our questions. She said that they beat her and that she was going to read and note and then she had to return to her sick mother who remained in the village. They were demanding that we return to our house, that the women and children carry the guns and that the men walk behind them with arms raised. Our people told her that we were not going anywhere and that the Muslims had to come and get us. The woman left and then came back with another message, we were to collect all the weapons in one place and their soldiers would then come into the village. When she left the second time, M.N. went with her and we do not know what happened to him. Š. and P. again tried to talk on the telephone with the Muslims but they had already entered the village and they returned the two to us. Š. and P. told us to be disciplined and to listen to the Muslims. About 20 Muslim soldiers came into the village. They were telling us not to be afraid and one toothless soldier told us that we were smart to surrender. All of them had either camouflage paint or stockings on their heads with holes cut out for the eyes and mouths. Some were speaking in a foreign language, some in English and some in Albanian, I think. Another group of soldiers searched the village. At one moment a woman said something to one of the soldiers, in another language. He left and said something on his radio. After that the shooting started. A bullet grazed P.D, age 17, and struck A.D., a friend of my son. Bullets were also striking the barns and houses around us. Before the shooting started the Muslim soldiers were on one side and the rest of us were on the other side. We began to panic. The Muslim soldiers were saying "See what the Ustasha are doing. They are shooting at you". While we were trying to escape or throwing ourselves on the ground, they were calmly watching us.

After that they separated us, some were chased behind the houses and some were kept in front of them. We remained in front of a house. They demanded that we give them our money. The most active among them was a woman who I had seen before in the city, those that knew her said that her name was ŠABIĆ LOLA, she lived in a high rise from which someone was shooting. She was constantly threatening and demanding money while she was constantly loading her gun. There were three other women, POZDER IZMETA, seh was recognized by J.M. . At first they were asking for 200 DEM and we all gave them that. When they saw that we had money they asked for all of it. They said that they would kill anybody they found who even had 1 DEM. One of them said "If you do not give DEM I will kill you like dogs", and later I found out what that meant, we saw the corpse of a slaughtered dog behind a wall. ŠABIĆ LOLA was looking for gold but one soldier said that he did not want gold because it brought bad luck and so he returned some gold. Others were taking gold. My daughter K. was crying and told me to take her earrings off because she was afraid that the would "cut her ears off".

After they took everything, they forced us into a house, but all the men from 16 to 60 years of age were separated. They forced us into two rooms so that no one could move. Some women were hiding boys of between 16 and 18 years of age. At one moment they were looking for a boy of 14.5 years of age, but with the help of the other women I hid my son S. . They said that we were not allowed to move, that we would come for us, and that they would kill anyone who tried to leave. Then they took our soldiers (there were around 80 of our "soldiers" - there were children of 15 years of age and men of 60 years of age) and left, we somehow got the courage to leave the house. I saw how they were using a tractor to drive away with the things they took out of a house. When it became dark we did not dare use the bridge because we did not know if it was safe. We were waiting for the Muslims to come for us. Somewhere around 02:00 some women said that one of our soldiers had come to take us over the bridge. We went quietly in the dark. Šumice was burning and this was lighting up everything. We were afraid that the snipers in the high rise would shoot us. We arrived

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in Zabrdje at 05:30, and from there we left with 450 displaced persons and arrived in Čitluk on July 6, 1993, and then we came to Medjugorje. My husband is still a prisoner at "IGMAN" in Konjic.

I give this statement freely and I take full responsibility for it's accuracy and authenticity by signing every page.

Medjugorje, July 9, 1993.

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TESTIMONY TRAV-994

(HVO soldier from the village of Maljine near Travnik, survivor of the mass execution of detrainees in Maljine and presently a displaced person)

On the morning of June 8, 1993 at 04:00 in the morning, the villages of Maljina and Postinja (these villages are in the municipality of Guca Gora) were attacked. While the residents were still sleeping, I was on guard on the lines between my village and the surrounding area. I had returned to my village, to protect my family, when the Muslim forces, MOS (Muslim defense forces), broke through the lines that morning and entered the village. When I arrived at the village at 05:30, I saw a horrible sight, the Muslims had opened fire on the village from all directions and they had used incendiary munitions so that many houses and barns were burning. At that time one woman was killed and one was injured. After 2-3 hours of unforgettable shooting, they called for us to surrender and give up our weapons, they promised that nothing would happened to either the civilians or the soldiers, that we were to be used in an exchange. We agreed to the conditions and our girls took our infantry weapons to them. After they collected all the weapons they brought everyone together in one place, they began to separate us, women, children, elderly and wounded on one side and able men on the other. The women, children, and elderly were forced to walk towards the village of Mehurici (a village that is almost exclusively Muslim), and the wounded were also driven in cars toward Mehurici. There were 7 wounded.

The men that were able to serve in the military were also forced to walk towards Mehurici, in columns. About 500 meters before Mehurici we were met by 4 Mudjahadins and 3 local Muslims. Two of the local Muslims wore hoods over their heads to hide their identity. The other local Muslim and the Mudjahadins separated the people between 17 and 50 years of age, and sent them to one side where a woman with a Red Cross armband was standing. The people who were separated were then forced to walk in single file towards the village of Bikusa. About halfway to Bikusa, in the village of Poljanica which used to be Serbian, we saw seven of our wounded. Some were sitting and some were laying down. When we passed one bend in the road we heard gunshots coming from where the wounded were. I assume that the local Muslims and Mudjahadin killed them.

When we arrived in Bikusa they lined us up and we had to face seven armed men (4 Mudjahadins and 3 MOS Muslim soldiers) who had machine guns. Seeing that they were going to kill us, the first soldier in the column tried to escape over the wall and they then opened fire on him. Another soldier then tired to escape from the other side. The armed Mudjahadins and MOS soldiers then opened fire on all of us who were standing in the column, as well as on the other soldier. There were about 20-30 soldiers in that column.

I turned around when the shooting started and was struck by 2 bullets, one in the hip of my right leg, and another above my right breast. I fell on my stomach and I was waiting to be shot in the back as well. Even when everyone was laying on the ground they continued to fire at us, and then they went to chase the soldier who tried to escape. While we were laying on the ground, one of our men began to call for someone, and then he stood up and began to run away. I also got up and ran towards the nearby woods, where I waited until it was dark and then I headed towards the Serbian positions in Ravno, and I came to Vlasica. Because I was wounded and tired, it took me three days to reach the Serbian positions. I surrendered to the Serbian soldiers and I told them everything that had happened in the village. They gave me food and let me recover. A doctor looked at me and took care of my wounds. They took my statement. Later they took me to our people in Travnik and the surrounding villages. We met at Galica in Vlasica where we headed off in the direction of the soldiers of the "Travnik" brigade.

By signing every page of this statement it's giver and recorder confirm it's authenticity, and that the it is given without any coercion, and that the written statement matches the given statement.

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TESTIMONY PROZ-980

(a housewife from the village of Jurići near Prozor, aged 68 years, Croatian)

Before June 18, 1993, it was relatively quiet in Jurići. There was shooting in the evening and at dawn. On June 17, 1993 my sister-in-law, K.I. , went to Prozor to church, she went with her children R. (14 years old) and R. (11 years old) and M. (4 years old). I stayed at home with my grandson JOSIP (born September 5, 1976) and granddaughter MARINA (born November 3, 1979). At around 22:00 all three of us went to sleep. JOSIP and I slept in the kitchen and MARINA slept in the other room. At around 08:00 we woke up and MARINA made us coffee, which we all drank. We talked for awhile and then we were silent. JOSIP laid down like he was sleeping and MARINA again told me about the dream she had that the Muslims attacked the village and they told her "We won't do anything to you". Just as she finished telling me about the dream, the door opened and we saw a soldier aiming his gun at us. The soldier started to say something in an unknown language, he said a few unrecognisable words and began to shoot. The soldier was in a black uniform, he ahd dark skin .... , he was surely a foreigner.

The first gunburst was aimed at me. I was not hit but I became covered in dust and plaster off the wall. I could not see anything. I knew that he was shooting at MARINA. I became lost, I knew that he was going to kill the children. I was shaken by MARINA's call, she was calling for me to lift her onto the sofa. I did not have the energy, MARINA was covered in blood. I looked at JOSIP , since I was in shock from the shooting on MARINA and me, I did not see when he was shot, he was dead. Blood was pouring off the sofa. I cried and yelled for help. He was shooting in every direction so I had nowhere to go. I did not know what I was going to do. Then another soldier came into the house, I was our relative D. (I cannot remember his surname). He immediately saw what had happened and went for another soldier. They took MARINA through the window. She still had signs of life, and she was asking to be taken to a doctor. Mortar shells were already falling on the village and everything was shaking. They also took JOSIP out, he was already dead. The soldier took me by the arm and led me away. There was shooting everywhere outside, and I was saying that I could not go, that we would all die. He tried to give me courage and dragged me along. Along the way we saw some soldiers carrying a dead soldier in a blanket. The dead soldier was MARIĆ ROBERT, age 20, he was from the village of Luga. They took me to a stream and asked me if I knew how to get to Donja Brajka, that our army was there. I said that I knew the way, even though I was scared of who I would meet along the way. I stayed there until the funerals on Sunday June 20, 1993. On Friday evening I found out that JURIĆ ANICA, born 1905, was also killed in the same manner.

The funeral was on Sunday June 29, 1993, at 15:00. It was quiet up until the funeral. They buried my sister-in-law and my two grandchildren together. There were a lot of candles on the grave and mortar shells began to fall when the mass started. They were falling around the graveyard, so the priest finished the mass quickly and they were buried in a hurry. The people managed to escape so that no one was injured. After the funeral I went to see my son, who was also displaced, and that is where I am today.

I give this testimony freely and with full responsibility, and by signing every page of the testimony I confirm it's accuracy and authenticity.

Čapljina, July 13, 1993.

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TESTIMONY ŽEP - 1088

(a nurse about events in the village of Kiseljak - municipality of Žepče)

I was in Žepče from April, 1992. I had no intention of staying there because I came there in order to visit my mother and 3 sisters who were living in Goliješnica near Žepče. I had to return to Koševo (Sarajevo) where the patients of the Institute for Rehabilitation (I worked there for 20 years) had been transferred. The Institute for Rehabilitation was burnt during the battles between the 'Sandžajklije' (men from Sandžak) and the 'White Eagles' - it happened on about April 15, 1992. Due to the situation in Sarajevo I was not able to return home. So I stayed in Žepče where I started to organize courses for first aid in order to educate the people on how to help the wounded and how to help themselves (7 days). As there was no medical staff, I organized the war hospital in Peškovići - without physicians, without medical staff (I found a few nurses), with only two general practitioners. This hospital was closed for some time and only now, due to tensions between the Croats and Muslims, has it started to operate again. The health care unit and the hospital in Žepče (Dom zdravlja) functioned and took care of the civilians - Muslims and Croats. When I worked in the hospital in Žepče I noticed that medicines, instruments, medical supplies, sheets and other hospital material were disappearing. All these things were taken by Muslims who took them to Željezno Polje where they had made a hospital for their wounded. The medical staff was kind, especially to me. They were always looking for something and taking it away. I noticed it all, the tension between the hospital staff was building up, they were accusing our staff. I was trying to satisfy them and they were abusing it. I was ready to forgive them and I was disposed to help them again but when I saw what they did in the village of Kiseljak (municipality of Žepče) ... I cannot forgive their crimes on civilians. It happened on August 16, 1993, in the afternoon (at about 6:00 p.m.). First, from Crni Vrh and Željezno Polje they opened mortar shell fire on the area of Šeher, Karaula, Žepče and wounded patients began to arrive in our hospital from all sides. Then, Muslims, dressed in HVO uniforms entered into the village of Kiseljak where they massacred the civilian population. We know for sure that 2 families (Krezić and Sirić) were massacred. A woman from the Krezić family was a witness of this event and she and her child managed to escape (during the massacre she was hidden in a wardrobe together with her child) and she saw when her mother-in-law, father-in-law and brother-in-law were killed. Muslim soldiers (MOS and Mudjahadins) would quickly enter the houses, gather people and they would kill or slaughter some of them. Some people were caught, tied and used as a living shield while they (the Muslim soldiers) were retreating towards Žepče. I went together with my team to pull out the wounded. I heard children who were used as a living shield together with women. The children were very afraid and they were screaming: "Don't hurt us, we are on your side, don't hurt us, please!" They were shouting it to our soldiers and the Muslims took them away as prisoners in an unknown direction. Our soldiers could not open fire on our children. The houses in Kiseljak mostly were burnt, they did not have enough time to plunder them.

During the night, corpses were pulled out and brought in front of our hospital. There were 12 dead, they were massacred. Two were members of the HVO (Croatian Defense Council) and all the others were civilians. Then, 20 wounded were brought in - among them 14 civilians and members of HVO. That was the situation at 3:00 a.m., the retreat was not finished yet so I did not know the exact number of victims. I went with the wounded and elderly persons, pregnant women and children towards Livno.

While I was working in Žepče I saw dead Croats who were massacred by Muslims.
The names of the people who were massacred and identified on August 16, 1933 are as follows. I saw them with my own eyes. There were:
Sirić Niko and Sirić Kata
Krezić Franjo and Krezić Florijan
Krezić Kata
Sirić Ivana (15 years old)
Vuković Alojz (member of HVO)
Miroslav Lucić
Luka Simunović (member of HVO)
Ivica Mandurić (member of HVO)
Kata Katić

By signing each page of the statement I confirm it's authenticity .

In Livno, August 18, 1993

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Testimony MOST - 865

On May 11, 1993, at about 5 a.m. we heard shooting near the hydro-electric power plant Grabovica. I was in the control room. The shooting lasted for 1 hour. Then two members of the HVO arrived and told me that one member of the HVO had been killed (Franjo Zadro) and that they came to make a phone call. They decided to escape along the road. They left and we do not know what happened to them. We stayed there and waited for what would happen next. There was G.N, Muslim, M.J., M.S. and me. At about 8 a.m. members of the Muslim units entered our room.

Two of them entered: one of them had a gun and the other one had a machine gun. In front of them was a Juka's (HVO) soldier who was limping, he was not armed. He motioned for us to raise our arms as a sign of surrender. Then they asked us who we were and we told them that we worked in the hydro-electric power plant. We were taken out onto the dam at 8 a.m.. There they asked us what we did and then they allowed us to continue our work. We entered the power plant again and continued our duties. At about 9 a.m. a phone rang and the head of the electric power plant (Muslim) asked us how many of us there were and who was there. He told us to continue our work.

The next shift arrived at 12 a.m., they were: S.K., B. Ć. . Their first reaction was: "What can you do, the times are like that, you have to keep your head". With them came the chief, Ismet Ništović; a driver in uniform, a policeman and a pyrotechnical technician. Also there was SENAD or SEMIR ĐINO, he was a police inspector, tall, he wore a brown cap, he was about 30 years of age. He asked if anything was mined. The driver and inspector went to the village. Ismet Ništović told us that we must give a statement in Jablanica and that everything would be all right.

At about 3:30, on the same day, the driver and inspector drove us to Jablanica, to the Museum where a prison was situated. He brought us into the Museum - prison. We were not beaten that day. In the evening, at about 9 p.m. we were told that we could leave. As we could not go home, we decided to spend the night in prison. At about 1 a.m., screams and cries woke us up. Someone was being beaten. They cursed his Ustasha mother. We assumed that it was a Juka's (HVO) soldier. The people doing the beating were from Sandžak (we concluded this from their dialect). In the morning we entered the room where the guards were. There were soldiers and military policemen. A majority of them were from Podbrežje Jablanica, the village near Jablanica. There we also found a young man from Sarajevo - Hrvoje. He was 18 - 20 years of age, it happened that he was there at the time, he was the member of the HVO Sarajevo. He encouraged us a little bit. He slept with them and he was waiting for the opportunity to leave for Sarajevo. I saw Adem Zebić, our guard, and I spoke with him. He told me: "You Croats, you are neither people nor fighters". I did not see him again.

On May 12, 1993, in the prison, a telephone rang at about 9 a.m. and I spoke with Edin Halilović. He was checking if I was still there and if we were free. He told me that he would come to us. (Now he is mobilised and he is a member of the military police). He arrived and we spoke. He said that we would go to his house when we had given our statements. He had already become a member of the military police. There was a prisoner in the basement of the building. People were beaten there all the time. There were about 20 people detained there. Ten (10) additional people were brought in from Grabovac. I know that there was prison and that a man from Split stayed there. Some prisoners were shown on the local TV. We insisted that someone come and listen to us. They told us that Zajko Sihirlić or Sejo Marić or someone else would come. We had the feeling that they were checking something before our interrogation.

In the meantime two men arrived, "Kulje" (Dlakić - family name) and a man from Mostar, an ex-member of the JNA (his name was ŠAHINIĆ or something like this) who was the commander of a battalion of the military police. We gave him our personal data and we told him that we had never been in the army. He said that they were fighting against the Ustasha and that their army was composed of all nationalities. Then we went to the plant in the town of Jablanica and there we found Adem Zebić, he was in civilian clothes, and a man who ran the plant. We were allowed to contact Grabovica and they told us that they had spoke with our managers in Salakovac.

At about 3 p.m. we had lunch at Edo's. Me and M. then stayed at Edo's. The following morning Edo went to the army's positions and we walked through the town. Some people we met told us that we should be killed (Isma Gorančić for example). In the town we saw some Croats in civilian clothes. Since April 14, 1993 the Croats of Jablanica were not allowed to go to work, telephone lines were disconnected. They were included in so-called "working brigades", they had to cut wood and dig trenches. They were not paid; they were forced to work.

On May 13, at 11:30 p.m., the military police arrived. They were looking for Haso and Edo but they were also looking for us, so that they could question us. We dressed ourselves and went with them. I recognised my colleague from school Đelmo Sejo. They verified our identity and then they returned us. We spent the night at Edo's house again and the following morning went into the town. When we

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came back, Edo's wife told us that police had been there and they had told us to report to them again. When we arrived, they told us that they were told that Edo was hiding Ustasha. They told us to go to the Red Cross where we spoke with Mušić. He told us that he could not find us any accommodations, so we decided to go to M.B. There we stayed until the arrival of the UNPROFOR soldiers and then we went to Mostar.

In the meantime we were taken by the police one more time, and there we recognised Ismet from Bijeli Brijeg. We were separated and then interrogated. They provoked us more then they interrogated us. The policemen who interrogated us were civilian policemen, and their provocations went along the lines of that the HVO was a paramilitary organisation, that Boban was a criminal and so on. We found out that there would be negotiations we went to the UNPROFOR barracks, and that is how we were exchanged.
I was exchanged on May 28, 1993 and since then I am in Mostar.

I give the statement of my own free will and without coercion. By signing each page of the statement I confirm the authenticity of the above written.

In Mostar, May 30, 1993.

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Testimony MOST - 866

There were nine of us who were members of the defense unit (composed of residents of Zalik in order to protect the "Vranica" restaurant and the building of HEKOM from robbery). On May 9, 1993, at 4 a.m. we went to relieve our colleagues. In front of Vranica soldiers of the Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina were waiting for us and took us into some rooms in the "SDK". While they were disarming us, two members of our unit managed to escape. When we laid down our weapons, they took all our money and any precious things they found in our pockets. Then we moved, in column, towards the SDK . When we arrived there, they took away our belts and anything we still had in our pockets (documents and keys).

We were brought into a room (in the basement), 5 x 6 meters in which there 40 other people. The room had two small windows with cross-bars which were covered with blankets, so it was very suffocating inside, especially when somebody was smoking. There was a small tin can in which we could urinate. There were 7 beds in the room and in each bed at least two men would sleep (me, my son and a young man slept together in one bed). The others slept on the floor. We had no blankets.

In our group of about 50, 36 were soldiers who had been tricked into capture while they were returning from their strongholds towards the Chetniks or they were captured in ambushes or they had been arrested by their next-door neighbors. The rest were civilians. The majority of people who arrested us were from Mostar. The commander of the prisons was MIRSAD ĆUPINA from Mostar. The guards were mostly from the villages out of Mostar (Podbrežje, Nevesinje, Gacko). During the first two days they insulted us verbally, they called us "Ustasha". Some of them were telling us that they would reach Grude and so on.

Every day they would take us to work: we had to clean the streets, dig up graves and so on but we did not work when grenades were falling (they would take us to a shelter then). When we returned from work we could not wash. This lasted for 19 days. On the day before the exchange they gave us a little bit of water so that we could wash.

Sometimes some unknown people would come and say to us : "For jihad, for jihad" and they were threaten that they would drop a bomb into our room. They never did it.

They would bury the dead in the graves that we had dug up except for two: a Muslim and a Croat (they said that the Croat had been killed by a grenade).

Amongst the captured civilians there was an Italian civilian (he was among the people who had transported humanitarian aid), about 50-60 years of age, and he was sick (he had had prostate gland surgery). He was treated as all the others. Also with us was the head of the office for telecommunications, Mr. G., who was also sick, they took him for questioning often.

Generally we did not get breakfast. For lunch we received beans or rice. We received the same for dinner. Meals were scarce, the food barely covered the bottom of the plate.

Some Muslims who were members of the HVO were beaten and were threatened if they did not want to go over to the Bosnian army. V.I. , the commander of the defense unit in Zalik, was beaten as well. They threatened M.Z. (born on 1972) by saying that they would slaughter him. After they arrested a civilian from Luką (I do not remember his name - they called him R.), they wanted to throw him from the old bridge over the Neretva. They had beat him so severely that he was completely broken when he arrived at the prison.

The guards sometimes came and asked for prisoners with certain blood groups to give blood. These prisoners were then taken to the Hygienic-epidemiologic institution. The doctors who worked there took their blood (vein-to-vein method) without any quantity control or, in some cases, they would put the blood into bottles. S.Š, one of the prisoners, said that they took about 800 ml from him by the vein-to-vein method and after that he felt ill. He said: "Blood was going out until I became blue". After this forced taking of blood, many people felt ill and they could not go to work. My son, who went to work all the time, lost consciousness due to hunger and exhaustion. One night they came for us and we were forced to unload some grenades, which they probably were not allowed to unload.

I saw how the UNPROFOR soldiers brought them some trunks which looked like military weapon trunks. I think that people were being smuggled over from the right side of the Neretva by the UNPROFOR forces.

In Zalik there were snipers from Bratunac, Foče, Serbia (Sandžak) and eastern Herzegovina (Podbrežje, Gacko, Nevesinje) who had escaped from their homes and come to help in Mostar. One of them wore a black uniform, he had a small blonde beard and mustache, he was of average height, blonde hair and was a Muslim from the Sandžak region.

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I was exchanged on May 26, 1993. The guards told us to get ready and they said that we would be going at 15:00. At 14:30 they took N.S. (we saw how he was sweeping in the yard) and a young man named I., we still to this day do not know what happened to him. We waited until 18:30 in our "prison" room. They then took us to the yard of the SDK, lined us up and counted us.

So that no one amongst us would do anything, they put us in buses and under the watch of UNPROFOR they drove us to "Razvitka". There we saw some civilians being loaded onto the buses. One hour later (around 20:00) we arrived at the students dormitory (Đačkog doma) where the civilians were taken off the buses, those that were remaining were taken to the hospital in Bijeli brijeg, where we were examined. After that we were released. The civilians that the Bosnian army loaded onto the buses and sent to the exchange, and who were released at the students dormitory, were mainly Muslims.

I give this statement of my own free will and without coercion, and by signing each page I confirm it's authenticity.

In Mostar, June 1, 1993.

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Testimony MOST. - 973

(testimony of the local physician concerning the Muslim attack on Mostar on June 30, 1993)

On June 30, 1993, at around 02:30, I was the on-call physician, in the clinic, in the army barracks "Tihomir Mišić". At that time we began to hear messages over a megaphone from the Muslim controlled area of the city, which was just over the wall from our barracks. A car was driving around and a male voice was calling over the megaphone that "We have you Ustasha surrounded, surrender, we will slaughter you" they were also yelling "allah ulegber". This lasted for about one half hour. After that they began shooting at us with guns and anti-armour weapons.

Before the actual attack, the Muslim forces destroyed the improvised suspension bridge, our only means of escape. My ambulance driver was injured in the upper right leg and right arm and foot. I bandaged him and we transported him in a basket to the right bank of the Neretva river. They began to attack with mortars at 06:00. During this attack, CVITKOVIĆ MARINKO, age 22, was killed.

On that morning the Muslim members of the HVO, turned their weapons onto their fellow soldiers in the HVO. I saw three killed and confirmed that they were CVITKOVIĆ MARINKO, GRUBIŠIĆ and ŠUNJIĆ SLAVKO. They were killed by the Muslims forces during the attack.

I have to mention again that they destroyed the bridge and then they told us on the megaphone that they did this. We do not yet know how the managed to mine the bridge, maybe they were helped by a Muslim in the HVO.

When the first battles between the Muslims and Croats began 2 months ago, the Muslims in the HVO expressed a desire not to be in the city and that they wanted to be transferred to the front lines facing the Chetniks, so they were transferred to the left side of the Neretva river, on the front lines towards the Chetniks. But this was also the part that tied together Mostar and Jablanica, soon we in the HVO noticed that the Muslims in the HVO were not guarding the passage from Jablanica to Mostar, and they were not stopping soldiers from the Muslim army and their equipment from getting through. When we noticed this we sent Croats there as well. On the day of the attack those same Muslims in the HVO killed Croats in the HVO forces with whom they fought together with up until the attack of June 30, 1993.

This statement is given freely and without coercion, and by signing every page I confirm it's authenticity.

In Mostar, July 1, 1993.

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TESTIMONY MOST-977

(HVO soldier, inhabitant of Mostar)

The morning of Thursday July 15, 1993, started in the normal way, with the usual exchange of artillery fire. There were fires on both the right and left bank, they were probably started by mortar shells. Somewhere around 11:30, J.V. , M.I. and J.R. came to tell me that they noticed at fire at the building of the locksmith and tin-smith company "SOKO", and that it was in the paint shop section. We were watching that section for a longer time, because we thought that they were producing explosives for mines in that area. We arrived at that conclusion because of the non-stop work of the generators and of the section. As the commander of the watch I went to where I could better see the situation, at the house of J.I. The "SOKO" building was about 250 meters from the house, across the Neretva river, and the house was a little bit lower then the factory which was in the direction of Blagaja. The three of them, M. , J. , J. and I went onto the roof. I was looking at the "SOKO" building, at the section where the chimney was, and I saw 6-7 people on the chimney, and about 10 people around the chimney. At one moment I saw 17 agitated people. My brother told me that, before we came, a "TAM" truck with a canvas cover arrived at the "SOKO" fence. It stopped next to the fence and men emerged from below the canvas cover, they were civilians and they were immediately surrounded by Muslim soldiers, and then the Muslims yelled at them "Climb up" and then they were forced onto the building. I saw how the older part of the building was burning. The building was slanted, so the people could walk on it. The older part of the paint shop was about 30 meters long. The people were nervous and moved around in a panicky way. I immediately knew that they were our people, Croats captured in the left bank of the Neretva. I called my command and asked them what I was going to do. I asked that they at least could send me a camera, but D.D. told me that his brother was not there and that he did not know where the camera was. The fire became worse and the people on the roof began to panic. They were looking for a way to get off the roof. We knew that it was impossible to jump off because the roof of the factory was about 10-15 meters off the ground. At one moment we noticed the hurried departure of the military vehicles, 2 all terrain trucks and one camouflaged van. One of the trucks was white. In the meantime a group of around 15-20 people gathered around the roof of J.'s house, since the news of the fire spread quickly around the village of Čekrk. Mortars shells kept falling on both the right and left bank of the river, and the smoke from the paint shop was becoming thicker. Between the explosions we could hear the cries for help from the people on the roof.

Immediately after the Muslim soldiers left, thick black smoke started coming out of the building, after which there was a strong explosion and then the roof collapsed. The people on the roof disappeared after the smoke and explosion. Even though it only lasted only 10 minutes it seemed to have lasted forever.

After the explosion we remained for a little while and then we broke up. The mortar shells continued to fall ...

This testimony is given without coercion and with full responsibility, and by signing every page I confirm the authenticity and accuracy of this testimony.

Mostar July 16, 1993.

TESTIMONY MOST - 993

(Croatian woman from Vrapčići, suburb of Mostar, now a displaced person in Široki Brijeg)

Early on the morning of June 30, 1993, while we were still sleeping, some shooting began at around 03:10. The shooting came from the middle of the village. We were sleeping in my husbands uncle's house. In the house there was me, my husband, our two children, my sister in law, my cousin, and their three children. We jumped out of bed and tried to turn on the lights, but there was no electricity. The electricity was cut off somewhere around midnight, that was the first time that we had been without electricity. My husband and cousin got ready and said that they were going to see what was happening, and that we should wait for them in the house until they returned. They left and we waited for their return until 05:30. All types of weapons were being used. When my husband and cousin returned they told us to get ready because we had to leave. They said that there was no time to collect anything and that the Muslim forces were very close.

My sister-in-law was five months pregnant at the time and I was four months pregnant. It was very difficult for her because two months before that the Muslims killed her husband in the village of Trusina, in the municipality of Konjic. The following people then left the house : me; my husband; our son, born 1988; my daughter, born 1990; my cousin, born 1958; his wife, born 1960; their eldest son, he was in third grade; their daughter, she finished the first grade of elementary school; and their youngest son, a child of 3 years of age.

There were some neighbours there with us, with their wives and children, among them were : K.A. , K.M , K.B. , K.N. , K.D , the mother of K.N. and D.A.

We left together, as a group, we crossed the road and went across some fields. We came to the Muslim houses, we started to cross the road and I spotted a Muslim soldier behind one of the houses. My husband crossed the road first and he was accompanied by K. , P. , and D. At that moment another soldier appeared and he noticed my husband and children and told them to stop and throw down their weapons. My husband turned around, put the child down in front of him, he also shielded the other child and then he escaped behind a house, he was heading toward the Neretva river. D.A. went along with him. One soldier form above and one soldier from below came towards us. Their guns were aimed at us and the children began to cry. One of the soldiers was yelling "F..... his Ustasha mother, he escaped with the children AND his gun". That soldier was not from the Mostar valley because he was speaking like a Bosnian. He had a helmet with a communist star and under the helmet he wore a black scarf. On his arm he had a black armband. He was of average height, he was thin and very dark. The other soldier was shorter, wider, he had blonde hair and he also talked with a Bosnian accent. He had a black scarf on his head and a red armband. The second soldier asked about the man who escaped. I replied that it was my husband. He told me to go after him and that I return the gun or he would kill us all. The children were crying. I took my daughter and went after my husband. I was yelling for my husband to come back . The soldiers stayed in the place where they captured us. When I was leaving the soldiers told me that I had to return or they would kill my sister in law and the children.

I travelled about 300 meters and I came close to the Neretva river, I could not find my husband and I had no idea in direction he went. I approached a spruce tree, and someone near me started shooting. I then put my daughter on the ground next to some cliffs, I was hoping that the cliffs would protect here from grenade shrapnel. The was a lot of gunfire all around us. I stayed under the spruce tree for about 1 hour, until the shooting lessened I headed back to see what was happening with my sister in law and the children. I came back to the house where I left them but nobody was there. I remained at these houses for a little while, I sat down in front of one house, I had an apple and I gave it to my daughter to eat, she was asking for water but there was no water there. A car passed, I recognized the car as one belonging to the HVO, but a Muslim soldier was driving it. The car stopped in front of a Muslim house for a little while and then the drove off in the direction of Mostar (left bank of the Neretva river). There was still some shooting so I had to wait. When the shooting lessened I crossed the road towards the Muslim houses, I looked through the empty Muslim houses because the said that is where they would kill my sister in law and the children. There was no one there. In one house there was a dog who started barking at me, so I could not enter that house.

I went towards the Neretva river again. I came to a cave on the Neretva river, I stayed there for 15 minutes. Some HVO soldiers then came by. One of the soldiers recognized me and they transferred me, and my daughter, across the river in a basket, to the right bank. We were met by more soldiers on the other side and then we were taken to Mostar.

Biograci-Široki Brijeg, July 4, 1993

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TESTIMONY MOST-995

(a Croatian woman from Bijelo Polje, Mostar, now a displaced person)

I know DR. KRESO SAMIR since last year. He is a general practitioner. Before the war he worked in the emergency department, at least that is what he told me. He lives in Mostar. On May 18, 1992, he became a doctor for the HVO. He came to our house often, we considered him a friend. He treated me for my high blood pressure and he treated my husband for an ulcer, He was also a friend of my son. On Tuesday, I was alone at home, or more precisely I was in the house of sister in law's mother, on Potoci street in Bijelo Polje. My house was damaged my Chetnik grenades, so it was impossible to live in it. On Tuesday June 29, 1993, in the evening at around 23:30, the electricity was cut off in our area. In the house there were R.F. , Z.B. and myself. My husband and I remained to sleep on the ground floor and Z.B. took a candle and went up to the first floor to sleep. Around 0:30 Z.B. came into the room where my husband and I were sleeping. Z.B. then said "I cannot sleep, there is shooting outside", I also heard the shooting but I thought that it was the regular type of shooting. I told her "Lay down in my room beside me and do not be afraid, it is the police that is shooting". But the shooting continued and then my husband said "something is wrong". My husband then got up and took his gun. At that moment our neighbour, M.V. a cook for the HVO, came to our house. She said that something is happening and asked my husband to go to the other company to see what is happening. After ten minutes he came back and told us to get ready to move to the other side of river, more precisely to the right side of the Neretva river to the village Vojno. My husband then left the house and I followed him to see where he was going. While I was watching him I heard someone yelling "Dragan" My husband answered that it was him, not Dragan. The other voice that was calling Dragan asked "Is it you F....." He answered that it was and went towards the voice, which he recognized. The man who called him then said "It is me KRESO, drop your weapons and raise your arms or I will shoot, this is Bosnia and Hercegovina". I was watching and listening to this from a distance of about 10 meters, it was a moonlit night. I recognized the voice of DR. KRESO SAMIR. When my husband threw down his gun, DR. KRESO told him to raise his arms or he would shoot, and then he fired his gun, I heard one shot. After the gunshot I began to cry and yelled "DR. KRESO killed my husband". I recognized DR. KRESO from what I could see in the moonlight at a distance of 10 meters and by his voice. He was carrying a gun, I did not notice if there was someone else with DR. KRESO. This occurred at 3:30 on the morning of June 30, 1993. I ran into the house where M.V. and Z.B. were and went to the closet and began to collect my things, M.V. came into the hallway and yelled that DR. KRESO was approaching and that he would kill us all, we had to escape. M.V. ran to the window at the side of the house opposite to the door, she broke through the blinds and the three of us jumped through the window and began to escape. We went through the yard and garden, we saw B.M. and T.V. who asked us what was happening, we said that DR. KRESO had killed my husband and now he wanted to kill us as well. They began to shoot in the direction of DR. KRESO, and we continued our escape until we came to a priests house. Together with the priest we ran towards the banks of the Neretva and hid in a cave. We stayed there for 10 minutes and then we crawled towards the bridge over the Neretva. It was an improvised wooden suspension bridge, and we went across it to the right side of the river. We came to the village of Vojno, we stayed there until 19:00 on June 30, 1993, we were waiting for dark because the snipers were shooting constantly. Under the cover of darkness we continued to move towards Djubrani. We came to the house of P.S. We spent the night there, and at 05:00 on the morning of July 1, 1993, my brother-in-law drove me to Medugorje. G.M. found me in Vojno and told me that my house was burning, her house was also burning and she escaped with us.

This statement is given freely and without coercion, and by signing every page of this document I verify it's authenticity.

In Medugorje, July 2, 1993.

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SERBIAN WAR CRIMES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA:

ETHNIC CLEANSING OF CROATS FROM NORTHERN BOSNIA (POSAVINA) AND NORTH-WESTERN BOSNIA (KRAJINA)

Report dated September 5, 1993

This report is based on the first-hand information and data (including medical documentation on victims of torture and a number of written eye-witness or survivor testimonies) collected by medical doctors - members of the following governmental and nongovernmental organizations from the Republic of Croatia:
Department of Information & Research of the Ministrz of Health of the Republic of Croatia;
Medical Center for Human Rights, School of Medicine University of Zagreb, Croatia

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INTRODUCTION

Bosanska Posavina is a region in Northern Bosnia and Herzegovina situated along the Sava river (border with Republic of Croatia), inhabited predominantly by Croats and consisting of the following 8 municipalities: Bosanski Brod, Bosanski Šamac, Brčko, Derventa, Gradačac, Modriča, Odžak and Orašje. According to the Vance-Owen plan, almost the whole region (except for parts of Brčko and Gradačac) was designated to be "Croatian Province 3 - Province of Odžak". That province was supposed to have the total surface of 2,103 square kilometers (4,1% of BiH) and a population of 254,134 (Croats 56% i.e. 142,384; Muslims 16,2% i.e. 41,025; Srbs 18,6% i.e. 47,260 and 9,2% other minority groups).

However, this region is also of key strategic importance for the creators of Greater Serbia, because it contains a key corridor (a communication Bjeljina - Brčko - Modriča - Derventa - Prnjavor - Banja Luka) connecting the Serbia (i.e. present Yugoslavia) with self-proclaimed "Republika Srpska" of Radovan Karadžić in western part of BiH as well as with the self-proclaimed "Republika Srpska Krajina" in the present UNPA Sectors West, North and South on the territory of the Republic of Croatia. Therefore, Serbian aggressor forces did everything in their power to completely occupy Bosanska Posavina and to expell all Croats and Muslims from that region.

Furthermore, some parts of Bosanska Krajina (northwestern Bosnia and Banja Luka region), inhabited predominantly by Croats, were also of the strategic importance for Serbian aggression: the town of Jajce (electric power plant) and Kotor Varoš, the town of Kupres (strategic cross-road in the mountain area) were occupied already during 1992 and all Croats (as well as Muslims) were expelled from that area.

CONCISE CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Already in fall and winter 1991, Yugoslav Army (Tuzla and Banja Luka corps) armed to the teeth local Serbian population and helped establish local Serbian paramilitary troops (such as "White Eagles" of Šešelj and "Tigers" of Arkan). Already at that time Serbian units situated in the village of Lješće near Bosanski Brod started with artillery attacks on Slavonski Brod (in Croatia, across the Sava river).

In February and March 1992, two strategic bridges in Bosanski Šamac and Bosanski Brod (the only connection with Croatia on the north) were closed and the whole region cut-off from the remaining world.

On March 3, 1992 local rebel Serbs proclaimed a self-appointed "Serbian municipality of Bosanski Brod" and initiated the first armed clashes - this was the real beginning of the Serbian aggression on Bosnia and Herzegovina, much in advance to the siege of Sarajevo. Serbs blocked the roads leading to Bosanski Šamac, Doboj, Modriča and Derventa.

Fierce clashes in Bosanski Brod continued through the March 1992 and about 5,000 inhabitants were forced to escape to Croatia across the Sava river.

On April 5, 1992, Yugoslav army fiercely attacked the town of Derventa.

On April 10, 1992 Yugoslav Army occupied the town of Kupres and expelled approximately 4,000 Croats.

In the period from April 11-21, 1992 Yugoslav army and Serbian paramilitary units completely occupied the towns of Modriča, Bosanski Šamac and Brčko, and attacked the town of Odžak.

On May 2, 1992 Serbs occupied the town of Doboj and started with fierce attacks on the municipality of Orašje.

During the May 1992, HVO forces launched a counterattack and managed to push back Serbian forces towards the Srbac on the west and Podnovlje (southeast). HVO units regained the control over the communication Bosanski Brod - Derventa, the whole area of Odžak and part of Brčko as well as the villages around the occupied Bosanski Šamac. At the end of May 1992, HVO even managed to regain control over the town of Modriča and part of Derventa.

However, at the beginning of June 1992, strong reinforcing troops of Yugoslav Army arrived directly from Serbia, aiming to regain and secure the control over the vital northern corridor. The local defense HVO forces were heavily outnumbered and outgunned, and in the period from June 7 to early July 1993 Yugoslav Army and Serbian paramilitaries regained control over the communication Bijeljina - Brčko - Modriča - Doboj - Derventa. Furthermore, on June 18, 1992 Serbs attacked the area of Gradačac for the first time - these attacks continued until the present.

On July 11/12, 1993 Serbian troops occupied Derventa, forcing thousands of Croats to flee towards Bosanski Brod and Croatia.

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During the August 1992, fierce Serbian artillery and infantry attacks on Bosanski Brod continued on a daily basis, supported by air-riads of Yugoslav army fighter-jets. At the same time, Serbs continue with the fierce attacks on the Gradačac-Brčko frontline and the frontline at Orašje.

Finally, in the period from September 10 to October 6, 1993, again decisively reinforced by fresh troops arriving directly from Serbia, Yugoslav Army and Serbian paramilitary troops managed to break the HVO defense. Bosanski Brod was occupied, as well as the whole Posavina except for the tiny streak of land in the area of Orašje.

In summary, from April until November 1992, Serbs ethnically cleansed Croats from the following areas:

a) Posavina: municipalities of Bosanski Brod, Bosanski Šamac, Derventa, Odžak, Modriča, Brčko, and Doboj;

b) Bosnian Krajina: municipalities of Banja Luka, Jajce, Kotor Varoš, Kupres, Prijedor, Skender Vakuf and Teslić.

As a result of this aggression, approximately 210,000 Croats from Posavina and Bosnian Krajina are presently refugees in Republic of Croatia and other countries.

During the same period (April-November 1992) Yugoslav army and Serbian paramilitary troops committed a large number of war crimes and grave breaches of Geneva Conventions against the local Croat (as well as Muslim) population, as clearly illustrated by the following examples and enclosed testimonies (see Testimonies BOS.P.-212, BOS.POS.-211, BOS.POS.-401, BOS.P.-853, BOS.P.-403, BOS.P.-404 and SIL-1092).

EXAMPLES OF WAR CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST CROATIAN CIVILIANS

The massacre of Croatian civilians in the village of Kolibe near Bosanski Brod:

Serbian paramilitary unit "White Eagles" brutally massacred 17 civilians, inhabitants of the village of Kolibe, in a single day. Few days later, HVO units managed to regain the control over the village and found the dead bodies of 17 cruelly executed inhabitants (see enclosed photographs of the deceased victims on the spot).

The following executed civilians were identified: Mirko Šarić (bout 60-years-old man) and his old mother Cvita Šarić (more than 90 years old), Mehmed Mujčin, Ejub Mašić, Ibrahim Mašić, Rizo Karić (about 50-years-Old man).

Identified perpertrators: Aco Vidić (local Chetnik "vojvoda"), Stanko Patković

Arbitrary executions of Croatian civilians in the villages of Vrela and Višnjik:

Already during the March and April 1992, Yugoslav Army and local Serbian paramilitaries ("White Eagles") occupied the villages of Donja Vrela and Višnjik (populated by Croats with several Muslim families). They constantly harassed and maltreated the villagers who were not able to escape. On May 5, 1992 they killed Ante Jurilj (elderly man), his wife Anda Jurilj, and Ante Jurilj junior (born 1941); several days later they killed Nikica Katavić and Ante Katavić, Mirko Vuković (born 1945), Ana Vuković (born 1937) and her mother Marija Vuković (born 1913), Jozo Blatančić, Niko Duspara (invalid without one leg), Ilija Rašić from the neighbouring village of Dobra Voda, Franjo Matanović, Ivica Jerković, Marijan Pavić and Ana Ćosina. For a short period at the end of May 1992, HVO units regained control over those villages and collected and identified dead bodies with the help of remaining inhabitants. All victims were buried at the local cemetery in the village of Donja Vrela.

Arbitrary execution of Croatian civilian in the village of Vinska:

On March 30, 1992 Serbian paramilitaries executed Pero Zirdum, a Croat from the village of Vinska (the village inhabited predominantly by Serbs, with only 3 Croat houses belonging to families Sliško, Zirdum and Marinić). He was murdered by two unknown soldiers dressed in Yugoslav Army uniforms, who in the middle of day arrived in a red car, jumped out and entered his home and after less than five minutes of searching around (obviously in attempt to robber his money and property) they beat him, stabbed him with knives and finally executed him with machine gun fire. The dead body of Pero

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Zirdum was later transported to the Department of Pathology and Forensic Medicine in Medical Center Slavonski Brod, Croatia, where the identification and autopsy were performed by pathologist and forensic expert Dr. Mato Vukelić. The autopsy disclosed that the death was caused by multiple cutting and gun-shot wounds inflicted by knife and machine gun bullets.

Arbitrary executions of Croatian civilians in the village of Lješće:

On May 11, 1992, Serbian paramilitaries cruelly executed an elderly couple in the village of Lješće: Anto Jurilj (born 1910) and his wife Anđa Jurilj (born 1909), and on May 13, 1993 they also executed Anto Jurilj junior. This was testified by the wife of Anto Jurilj junior, who managed to escape (she is also a neece of Anto and Anđa Jurilj) after she found the dead bodies of her relatives and buried them in the neighbouring village of Vrela on May 16, 1992.

Summary execution of Croatian civilians in Kupres:

After the attack on the municipality of Kupres on April 10-11, 1992 and the occupation of Croatian villages of Osmanlije, Olovo, Zlosela and Kukavice, more than 30 Croatian civilians were killed. According to witness testimonies, those executed included helpless people who threatened no one and possessed no weapons. Their graves have not yet been located by relatives or friends; the majority have probably been buried in mass graves in Kupres field.

Shelling of refugees from Jajce:

After the occupation of the town, Serbian forces shelled columns of civilians attempting to flee through forests toward the direction of Travnik. More than ten civilians were killed in these attacks, and remain unburied to this day.

Torture of Croatian and Muslim detainees in Serbian-held camps:

After the occupation of Posavina, Yugoslav Army and Serbian paramilitary forces established concentration camps in which they mistreated and killed Croat and Muslim detainees, mostly innocent civilians. The most notorious camps were in Brčko (Luka), Bijeljina (Batković). Bosanski Šamac, Obudovac, Doboj, Derventa and Omarska, as well as the well known camp on Manjača. More than 30,000 individuals passed through these camps. The methods of torture used by Serbian forces included summary executions of detained civilians, slaughter, burning detainees alive in car tires on the occasion of Serbian religious holidays (Omarska), beatings to the point of death, rape and other sexual abuses (Omarska. Obudovac and Brčko) etc.

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TESTIMONY BOS. POS. - 211

J. about the events that occured during the end of March (25.03) in the village of Donja Vrela and Liješće in the region of Bosanski Brod. My name is J, I was born in Donja Vrela in 1964. I have one child. In Vrela I worked as a plumber. The nationality of the village was mixed: Croatian and Serbian. I think there were more Croatians. We lived well with the Serbs, we went to school together, we were friends. Relations changed after the elections. During our referendum the Serbs put up barricades, they closed the roads and the people leaving Bosanski Brod would be stopped 4 times by armed people. The majority of Serbs were armed, having recieved their weapons from the JNA, along with the fact that most were hunters and had hunting rifles. In Vinsko (our local community) there were 108 hunters, of whom maybe 2 or 3 were Croatians. The army brought them weapons in their trucks, while we had to buy our own. At the beginning the cost of a rifle was 1500 DEM. After the referendum, I had to drive my wife and child to Brod because the situation at home was becoming critical. They stayed in Brod about 4 to 5 days, I remaind in Vrela because of work and I cattle. About 5 or 6 of us left Vrela to help the Croatians and Muslims in Bos. Brod. On March 25, 1992, I was in Bos. Brod and was caught on my way home. I was captured by "White Eagles" in Grka (at Vidić's house on the border between Vinska and Grka). With the "White Eagles", those were the Chetniks of Jović and Šešelj. The locals acted as if they didn't want to get invloved, but they were stopping us. I remember a Captain of the "White Eagles", Dragan, who was their commander. With him was Sime Vidić, his son Tomo Vidić, Milan Gajić, with his wife and children. They were yelling "Don't" do it. With me was Ilija Duspara and Franjo Matanović. Both are now dead. They were my friends from Vrela. Franjo was born in 1957, and Ilija was born in 1956. We were in Bos. Brod, helping to defend the "Slaughter-house". We fought there and left to feed cattle. We would leave early in the morning and return at about 16:30. Until that day they never stopped anyone because the "White Eagles" had not yet arrived. Just when we showed up they began to stop people and check documents. The headquarters of the "White Eagles" was in Liješće, but they came from Belgrade. There were local people from Vinska who were trained by, and part of, the "White Eagles". We showed our identity cards but two cars came and the occupants got out and began to beat us. One of the men hit the trunk with his rifle and it opened, showing it to be full of guns, he immediatly began to shoot at my head, he injured my right arm. They began to kick us, we weren't allowed to defend ourselves because they would shoot at our heads, emptying a whole clip. They would toss bullets from their pockets and then tell us to pick them up, then they would beat on us as much as they liked. The neighbours yelled as if their weren't beating us. One said "You didn't need that, F you didn't need that". Franjo Matanović was my neighbor since birth. He lived with us and built the house. Ilija Duspara had already lost consciousness from the blows, they forced Franjo and I to load him into the trunk of my car. They forced the both of us into the back of my car while two "White Eagles" sat up front, one to drive and the other to watch us. They were driving us to Liješće along some other way across the fields beside Vidić through Vinska. This road was already there, but only tractors could used it. They had already put in a swing-gate and it was arranged so that cars could pass over the stream. They didn't want to go through Vrela because they were afraid that one of our friends would stop them. One of their cars went in front of mine, and the second was behind. No one amongst us knew of this road even though it was located close to our village. At Vinska we were stopped by a former policeman who asked if he could beat us but they wouldn't let him, they said we were bound for Liješće. In Liješće there about 30 people already there, some of whom were familiar. I knew them by name, I had worked in Klakar for 2 years because, I went at school with them, everyday I would pass through Liješće going fhome, we would meet in the inns. Among them was Trifković, his father would make brandy at our house, and Nenad Miličić from Vinska, they were older then me and i knew them since my childhood. Miličić Miličić came up and asked us our names, he knew all of us but acted as if he had never seen us before in his life. They situated us in some kind of prison made of dressing-rooms behind the school. In came the "White Eagles" and asked about the Croatians in Vrela, how many Croats were there, they asked about the names. We saw that they didn't know so we began to lie, we didn't know that the policemen from Vrela would come later, and they knew all the people in Vrela. They came in one by one and first they would beat aaand then they came to interrogate. They would put a knife on the veia in ours necks. I was wounded in the shoulder at G so I lost consciousness a few times. Then a familiar policeman entered, Nedo Ćerić, I was friends with him. He didn't want to say anything and didn't ask us anything eventhough he knew all of us very well. He probably said that I was injured because after him came Obrad Nunčić, a retired male nurse, with a bag and asked who was injured. I answered and he dressed my wound. I didn't have anything to wear later, he treated me well, he was from Liješće, I knew him and his brother. He dressed my wound but didn't have anything for me to wear because he taken off what I had on, it has covered in blood. He gave me a womens hospital gown. Then a man from Liješće came in, I didn't know him by name. I thought that someone said something about me while my wound was being dresses and I told him not to hit me in the shoulder since it had just been treated, but hit me and jumped on me. Later some women who belonged to the "Eagles" came in, and asked if anything was needed. But I wasn't allowed to say anything except that we do not need anything. I was thinking about asking for a match, since I had a cigarette in my pocket and match to light it with. When she again asked if we needed anything, I answered that I like a little water. She remarked that she knew that I needed it

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and left. She brought a litre of water and held it out for me. I extended my hand and she kicked it and poured the water saying : drink. One group came in, started hitting us but wouldn't turn on the lights. They were probably familiar to us so it would be uncomfortable for them to come in and start hitting us in the light. The guard would empty his semi-automatic rifle's magazine if no one entered for 10 minutes. If nothing happened for 10-15 minutes we would fall asleep, but when someone would enter the jail you had to get up. Once I couldn't get up, my friends had to help me. Another woman from the "White Eagles" came and said "Why don't you kill this one ?" because my white hospital gown was covered in blood as a result of the beatings. They took me to a house, temporary clinic, which they made near the Orthodox church, and they tended to me. The nurse who tended to me was from Klakar, and there was another nurse form Liješće whom I recognized from before. Miro Radevanović didn't ask me my name because he knew me, he was there as well. The two nurses took off my gown and wipped way the blood. Miro is the chief of the local Chetniks, he is about 45 years old. When he entered he asked "What brings you here ? Did you need this ?" and he asked me about a few people in Vrela and whether they had weapons. He offered me a cigarette, and he gave me a light. He also gave me some something to eat and said : See, we Serbs have something to eat. I remained naked. One of them remarked : "We also have Caritas", he left and came back with a pajamas and shirt, they were small and he put it on me. The woman took me back to the headquarters and returned me to the clinic, and they gave me two pils to drink. They didn't give me water and I wasn't allowed to ask for some. They asked me "Since when are you married ? Why didn't marry a Serbian ? If I was to marry again , would I marry a Serbian ?". I answered "Yes" and they hit me because they said I was lying. If I said I wouldn't they would have hit as well. The guard hit me on the head with his fist, but it hurt him more than me because I had already become hardened. They took me back to the headquarters and brought in Franjo Matanović and Ilija Duspara and gave them papers to sign. They sat back to back. One of the Eagles yelled "Bring him here as well" and another said "Bring him here". They put me in another room, the door was open and I could see inside. Rain and grenades were falling. Our boys had some coordinates as well. I sat where I was put and began to vomit. One man came in and hit me to make me stand up. They took me outside. They were talking amongst themselves and had probably decided to let me go. Whether anyone was talking about me, I do not know. They asked me "If we let you go, which hospital would you go to ?", to which I replied "I would go to Derventa". They replied that "We can't take you now, but if we were to take you, we would take you to Banja Luka, but it is too far. You won't last until the morning. If we took you to our front lines, your own people would kill you. What do they know about who is travelling around at night. Would you go home ?". I answered that I would. I didn't believe that they would let me go home. Miro Radovanović asked if I know the terrain and would Marko Opačak take me if he was home, I replied that he would. The put me in a car and hit me saying "Maybe we will never see one another again". They put me in the car but I didn't know where we were going. "White Eagles" were driving me. They picked a direction along the Sava and brought me to their barracks. They took me a little farther to where there was the inn "Scorpion" and here they stopped. One got out with me and brought my blanket and put it on my back and said "Go, and don't stop". He introduced himself as Dragan but I forgot his last name. He in fact shot at me. He said "I am a father of three children. Go home and watch that crazy head of yours. Say hello to all your Ustasha and tell them that you fared the best". I left. They kept their lights on me and then turned the Mercedes around and left, while I slowly went home.

The two who were with me weren't wounded, but they were beaten well. They hit them picking anything they found. It looks as if they were killed the same night. Ilija Duspara was found in Šamac, and Franjo Matanovic was found in Orašje, after the Sava gave them up. Ilija's body was examined in Slav. Brod and it was concluded that he was killed the same night. I could guess who did it. One man came in with Miličić when I was still in the jail and said that his twin brother had died at the front and that Miličić go get him and that when he returns he would kill us. I don't know who he was but I am assuming that the killer of Ilija Dupar and Franjo Matanović was Nenad Miličić

On March 26 I went to the hospital in Slav. Brod. after 20 days the body of Franjo Matanovic was found in Oraš and he was buried. Later they found Ilija Duspara in Bos. Šamac. The poeple who found Franjo took pictures. You couldn't recognize Franjo anymore, but he had on his hand the letter "F" and the date, while with Dupspara they found his documents. Duspara's body went to Slav. Brod for an autopsy and Franjo was immediately burried in Orašje.

I was at the funeral of Ilija Duspara in Slav. Brod at the city graveyard. The funeral was in April, but I don't know which day. He was buried on someone elses plot because he couldn't be buried in Vrela.

When the Chetniks were chased back to Podnovlje, I returned to Vrela and we started to repair everything. We were there for about 1 month and then again ....

In addition to those two, in Vrela died the following : Jozo Blatančić, who remained alone and didn't want to leave, one captured Serbian said that Jozo was caught by Tomo Vidić and his two sons and that they took him to Kamen. This was said by the prisoner, D. and by R. as well, both didn't want to be involved in the prisoner exchanges. Drago said that they took Jozo Blatančić to Kamen, to the old bridge, they gave him some conjac, killed him and threw him into the canal. They killed Marijan Pavić, Ana Katinić, three Juriljs (Ante Jurilj, his wife Anda and the young Ante Jurilj). The Jurilj were killed by their Serb neighbours. They killed Niko Duspara, who was missing a leg, he lived alone and was unmarried. It is said he was killed because of money. He had a German pension. They killed Niko

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Katavić, Ante Katavić, one old lady (I don't know her name), I think she was Milnica Katavić, and also Pero Zirdum. P. might be able to talk about Pero Zirdum.
The man who was the most responsible for what happened in this area is Miro Radanović. He was the head commander, while Ranko Stanimir was the commander of the Serbian militia. He was from Brod, He was a policeman in Slav. Brod but was thrown out, and the "White Eagles".

Slavonski Brod, October 21, 1992

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TESTIMONY BOS. P. - 212

My name is A., I was born in 1944 in Žeravac. I lived in Donja Vrela. Now I am a displaced person living with my relative in Slavonski Brod. By profession I am a housewife. I have 5 children We lived among the members of the Orthodox church.

There were more Catholics in Donja Vrela then Orthodox. We lived for years with them and had no problems. My family lived on the edge of town, right on the border with the village of Klakar, where the majority was Orthodox. We would help each other in good times and bad. It was like this until 1992. Once the elections arrived they began to behave differently towards us. The biggest injustices were done by those who I saw, those who killed my husband : Goran Vukman, son of Slobodan Vukman, his mother was a Catholic from Vrela. He was the first to come to our house, he brought a group with him and they drove off with our tractor. He brought with him sons of Žarko Šljuka - Đorđe and Vid. There were also - Goran, Zoran and Slobodan Jakovljević, Josip and Zoran Vujić. They were all neighbors who lived within a half kilometer radius. Foreigners from Serbia, Chetniks and JNA, did not come to our village. We saw when the army was approaching, they were taking their tanks towards Bosanski Brod. But from these formations no one came to our village. Only our neighbors came and when the army did attack Vrela they encircled us. That occurred on Saturday, March 28. On that day they came to search the house for weapons. We didn't have any weapons, but they treated us as if we had received some from the Croatian Democratic Union. We said we had no weapons, that we didn't belonged to any parties, we wanted nothing to do with the war. We only wanted to live in peace, as we lived before, we didn't want to get involved with any parties, we had no use for them. Along with the people I mentioned there were altogether 60 people around our house, they didn't approached the house. They were all our neighbors, those who close with us weren't allowed to approach us. The neighbours who didn't know us were the ones who came and searched our house. They were all young people, from 18 to 30 years of age. None of them had jobs.

Goran Vukman was best friends with my son, they went to school together, they slept together, he would eat and sleep at our house, I treated him as a son. He was the first that came, and he drove away our tractor and set it on fire. Vid Slujka was also with him and I told them "If we are bothering you then let us leave with our children. We will leave everything as it is now, just let us leave". To which they replied "You are not bothering us, stay here and don't get involved in anything, no one will touch you". My two younger sons immediately escaped into the woods, but my older son stayed with us. When they were at our house they maltreated him, they said they would chase him in Liješće, that they wanted a machine gun. They chased us to some extent, and then the returned us and said "Stay here, we won't do anything to you if you don't get involved in anything".

The attack on Vrela had already begun, they started to burn Vrela, they kept watch from our house. I asked "Can we go to my neighbors basement?" to which they replied "As far as we are concerned you don't have to go, we won't do anything to you, but you can leave". My son and I went to our neighbors. My husband stayed at home. The next day we came home and found my husband. We then ran away into the woods. When we came home my neighbor told us that they got orders from their headquarters that we were not allowed to come. She was crying when she said "I am sorry but I am not allowed to say anything. In addition they told us that if we associated with Catholics they would kill us". I told her that we wouldn't come over anymore. After that we never went over , instead we stayed at home. People still kept coming to our house for about 2-3 more days. They would come by rarely, but when they did, they would shot and rob, so we didn't go outside. If I would go outside to see the cow they would shoot.

During the night of the Orthodox Easter they attacked our house, they shot at us for about 20 minutes. The active army was in one building in Vrela, and they thought that they were under attack, so they ordered that the shooting stop and it did. That is what I heard from my neighbor. That was the JNA. Those who were shooting shot at the roof-beam, and the roof-beam was riddled with shots. We went into the basement. The next day my neighbor told me who was there. She was crying and said it was the same group that I mentioned before with an additional member, Marko Đukić.

We stayed here until the army began to withdraw from Zborište and Liješće. When the army began withdrawing the people left for Podnovlje. Our neighbors were ready. No one tells you anything but we saw that the same people came to our house to search it. I told them "What do you children want now, what did you look for before and what are you looking for now". They replied "We are looking for some people who are hiding", "Who was it that hid ?" I asked and they said "Ustasha". I said "There are none of them here". Again they searched the house and basement and left. Our old aunt was at our house, she shook hands with them and they left. They came to search the next day. I told my husband "They want to kill us", it was Monday. One of them, Goran Jakovljević (18), went towards the house of our uncle and aunt with a gun. Their names were A. and A..

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He was born in 1910 and she was born in 1909. Goran Jakovljević went to their house, I was watching him, and after about one hour there were two gunshots. I told my husband, after one hour had passed, that I was going over to their house to see what they were doing. They lived about 500 meters from us, maybe not even that much, perhaps 300 meters. I said "I am going to uncle's and aunt's house. I will ask them to come over. Maybe they are afraid".

I went slowly. When I arrived, I didn't hear anyone. I went up to the veranda and saw both of them lying there. My uncle and aunt were laying on the front of the veranda, and was laying in the doorway with a plastic bucket over his head. I returned immediately, I ran home and told my husband that they had been killed. I saw that the same boy, Goran Jakovljevic, was squatting in a bush. There was one bush on the way towards their house. I don't know if he saw me, but I noticed him. What he was waiting for I do not know. He was probably waiting for my husband so that he could kill him too. I told my husband "We done too, let's get out of here, we can't wait for nightfall". He replied "Let's go, I will go into the house to get something and lock up". It was the afternoon. Just before nightfall, at dusk, we were in the woods. I went to our Orthodox neighbors and told them that my uncle and aunt had been killed. We didn't know what to do or where to go. They were already packing to go to Podnovlje, and said that they didn't know what they were going to do either. They were crying and one was holding his head and saying that A. couldn't be dead. I said "It's the truth, I wouldn't lie. I went to their veranda and aunt was lying there with blood coming out of her thigh, and uncle was killed beside her and his head was wrapped up and a plastic bucket was put over it. I saw that they were killed because she was lying on the floor and her head was bare, her kerchief had fallen off". Then my neighbor left, his wife said "I would go there but I am not allowed, they would kill me, I would go to see my neighbors". Fifteen minutes didn't pass before we heard a tractor heading towards our house, and those people got out and banged on the door. I don't know what they used to bang on the door but it broke and Goran Vukman started our tractor, the new tractor. They set fire to our hay, and sat free our cattle. We ran into the woods. The next day, Tuesday, my husband woke up earlier and went home, I stayed in hiding. When he returned he said that they had taken the new tractor and that the old one was on the road, they couldn't start it so they pushed it off to the side. That night was spent in the woods. They were walking near us. The next morning, Wednesday, I went to see where my husband was, he left during the night to go back to our house.

I heard no one in the house, but I found him carrying water. He said to me "They burned and destroyed everything. Let's go, as long as we are still alive". We fed the cattle and escaped into the woods again, my husband asked "How will we report the death of the two old people, so that they can be buried ?". To which I replied "Let's go up towards Vrela, there is no one up there, maybe we will find someone as long the way and tell them about the deaths, they can come back. You see that they are burning and destroying everything here and they are looking for us to kill us". He then said "We can't go, at least let me see who is doing what and who is taking away my things". He started to cry, he said "We are left with nothing", and I said "So we have nothing, we will go to the children". Our children were in Slavonski Brod. He said to me "If you can, go alone to see if there is anybody, if you can't, we will go tomorrow morning". And I said to myself that I will go, maybe they wouldn't kill me if they saw me. I went to Vrela, to where the army had been. There wasn't anybody there. There were about 4-5 still burning. When I saw there was nobody, I returned. I saw that the houses were burning and that the army had pulled out the day before, and it was still smouldering, not that it was burning it was smouldering. These were the houses of Croatians.

I then returned home. When I approached my house, I heard some knocking. I thought it was my husband. As I came to the house yard, I saw a soldier, I immediately ran into the woods beside a small stream beside our house, but I didn"t go to where my husband was. I saw him, I'm not sure, but he looked like Savo Đukić. He was from our village. He took my sons motorcycle. He went in the direction where my husband was hiding. In that direction is a path that leads up to our neighbours. When he got up there and gun was fired. I went to my next-door-neighbours, but they had left the day before. I found my husband dead, I immediatley ran into the woods beside the stream. I later went through the woods towards Vrela thinking about what I was going to do now. The three of them were dead and I was all alone. And I didn't know where I was going to go. I don't know anybody anywhere. Uncle and aunt were killed on May 11th, and my husband was killed on May 13th. When I came to the woods around Vrela, I thought about what i would do now. I went to B.'s house across the ponds to see if they were alive. I didn't meet anybody along the way. When I came to the house of B., it was empty. I returned to the woods and spent the night there. That night the young people that I mentioned before were passing by and making noise. That night they burned and destroyed everything. The only thing remaining intact was the stable. The next day, Thursday, I was in the woods, I couldn't go anywhere. Finally I had enough, I thought so what if they kill me, what could I do. I am going to report to someone, I don't have anywhere to go once I left Vrela. The army found me. I hadn't eaten for three days, it was Thursday, May 14th. They came to me and looked

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at me asking where I was from, I told them and had my personal identity card with me. I told them that my husband, my uncle and aunt had been killed. They asked me if there was anybody around, I told them there was nobody here. I stayed here the rest went towards Podnovlje. They asked me "Who's army are we?" and I said "You are probably ours". They then sent me to Vinska. When I arrived, a commander met me, took my documents and wrote everything down. He contacted my children, the children of my uncle and aunt and they came on Friday and we left to bury my husband and relatives. Amongst those that came was : the uncle's son, brother-in-law and 7 soldiers from Vrela. We went to the house of uncle and aunt, and put their bodies in the car. We next went to my neighbours to get my husband. We found my uncle and aunt the same way they were when I first saw them. With my husband, I saw that someone had been there in the meantime and had turned him onto his back, put his hands on his chest and cut a cross into his right hand. The soldiers went with my son and son-in-law, they didn't allow me to see. They told that they had been slaughtered. When I found my husband he had been shot in the head. At the funeral there were some other people from Vrela who had returned to see their houses. At the funeral were: uncle's son Luka, his brother-in-law Ilija and my children. The funerals were on May 16th. They were lying there from Monday to Friday and my husband had been there from Wednesday to Friday. My uncle and aunt had a plot and were buried in the plot.

Except my aunt, uncle and my husband, they killed everyone they had caught: Marijan Pavić, Ana Ćosina, three members of Vuković family, Katavić - old woman, Nikica Katavić, Ante Katavić, Ivica Jerković, Ilija Rašić, Jozo Cerikan, Franjo Matanović, Ilija Blatančić, Ilija Duspara and Niko Duspara. I know that these people were killed. I don't know wether somebody else saw other killed people. I know that J. found his mother when she was already dead.

I have told of everything I experienced. All was destroyed by my neighbours, with whom I shared the good and the bad. Those from Serbia did me no harm. I knew from his early years that Goran Jakovlevic was his own type, he wasn't normal, he stole and kept company with the worst types; he was different then the others. Vukman kept company since they were small, we never had any problems with him before. But when this started he turned to the other side. He behaved as if he had never knew us. He didn't come to us and we never went to him. I am sure that Goran Jakovljevic killed my uncle and aunt. I didn't exactly see who killed my husband. The man who went up to him had a mask, army uniform and a gun. I knew he was from Klakar, I recognized his hair, but I am not sure becaase he was turned away from me. After the funeral I went too Bosanski Brod and reported in, and I was here until the fall of Bosanski Brod. Again I remaied without anything.

By signing every page of this statement, it's giver and recorder verify it's authenticity, and that the statement was given willingly.

Slavonski Brod, October 21, 1992

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TESTIMONY BOS. POS. - 401

The witness is a civilian from the village of Dragalovci, in the municipality of Doboj, Croat by nationality.

I was arrested on May 30, 1992 at my own house - the reason is unknown (allegedly due to some statement). The same day M.S., a priest, and M.I., a taxi-driver, were arrested as well. On June 1, 1992 my brother was arrested. On June 2, about 40 people from our village were arrested and on June 4, 1992 another 35 persons. This number also contains residents of the villages Osredak and Raškovci. All the people who had been arrested were driven to camps in Doboj. There I was interrogated three times. The first time was at the reception point in Grabovica, the second time at the central prison in Doboj and the third time in the "Disco bar" near Perča. The first two interrogations were done normally but the third interrogation was very bad. I was beaten for six hours, I lost consciousness 7 times, they cut me with a knife. I can not remember exactly his name but I think that the name of a man who died due to beating was Čičak Stipo. The group who beat us was called "Predo's team" (from Ozren). Predo is a captain and he had 110 men under his command. As well as beating they tortured us in various ways: they released their lower instincts, they burnt us, cut with us knives, shot without ball and so on. Prisoners were sexually abused as well. We walked around completely naked. When they were tired, we had to beat each other. There were members of many units there : some of them had JNA uniforms. There were also members of police forces, special units, private armies, the police of "Krajina", the army of "Krajina", Martić's units," White Eagles", red berets. Chetniks and some others.

Among the private armies the main people were PREDO KUJUNDŽIĆ from Ozren and KARAGA , a caterer from Doboj, ŽORŽ, a caterer from Doboj and JORGA who was a leader of the "red berets" from Kostajnica near Doboj.

I know of the following camps :

- the military hangars near Bosanska fabrika voćnih sokova (Bosnian factory of fruit juices) - there were more than 1000 of us there.
- the "Disco bar" near Perča on VILA - there were 412 of us.
- BARE - when I arrived there were about 120 of us but before that there were more than 1000 prisoners. According to the statements from Grapska, about 800 Muslims passed through this camp.
- CENTRAL PRISON - the only place visited by the ICRC and by the Military court from Bijeljina - there were about 200 prisoners.

According to various accounts (although I did not see it) there were more than 3000 prisoners on Ozren mountain. I heard lately that there were prisoners in the Stanari mine - Doboj.

In all those camps prisoners did various jobs - they gathered pigs, cows; picked up food, house appliances and other things; pulled out windows from the houses, took away and building materials away; they dug trenches for Serbian fighters. During the fighting they had to dig graves for human and animal corpses and they loaded and unloaded ammunition. A large amount of ammunition was driven to the Bare camp by trucks which had Red Cross markings. When we spoke with the drivers, we found out that it came from Serbia. All this ammunition was driven away to the front lines near Doboj, Posavina, Brod, Derventa, Modriča, Gradačac. Three months ago, about 30 prisoners were released from the Bare camp . About 10 prisoners were released from the other camps. The last ones were released on November 26, 1992. My brother and I were among those.

I would like to say that from the Vila camp, near Perča, about 50 prisoners were taken out and used as a "living shield". 23 of them killed were killed, 23 came back and the others disappeared.

I gave the statement of my own free will and without coercion.

In Zagreb, December 11, 1992

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TESTIMONY BOS. P. - 403

CVIJETIN MAKSIMOVIĆ
Born on November 3, 1970 in Lukavac, community of Brčko
Occupation - worker at the brickyard in Brčko
Mobilized on May 7, 1992. Unmarried. finished elementary school .
Three sisters and parents. Mother - Ilinka; father - Cvijetin. Serbian by nationality.

STATEMENT

On May 7, 1992 Bogdan Maričić mobilised me into the Serbian army. They gave me a JNA uniform, all of the Serbs wore such uniform. About 500 men were mobilised into this unit. Bogdan Maričić was the president of the SDS party. I was ordered to go to the guardhouse in Luka, Brčko. I was there from May 7 until 17 1992. After that I escaped and I was arrested in Donje Rahiće. I was arrested by Croats and I am in captivity since May 18, 1992. I was a guard in Luka camp, in Brčko. There were Croats and Muslims, women and men in this camp. There were about 500-600 people in the camp. They were situated inside hangars. They were civilians, residents of villages. The guards of the camp were members of Arkan's and Šešelj's units. They were members of special forces and they arrived in Brčko because of the war. I did not know who the commander of the camp was. A majority of these soldiers were guards at the camp, they brought in and took out the people. People were brought to the cafeteria or near the Sava river where they were killed. I heard this from my Serbian colleagues and I saw them driving the corpses away. They would kill 1-3 persons and then take them away. A lot of people were killed there. The largest number of people killed was 80. They were shooting and slaughtering them. There were more men then women in the camp. All of them were from the places near Brčko. All of them were situated together. There were two hangars. Before the war it was the place for loading and unloading. The people slept on the concrete floor. They ate once a day. People were killed behind the hangars. Local Serbs and members of Arkan's and Šešelj's units were killing them. People were chosen randomly, groups of 10-15 persons were collected. Members of Arkan's and Šešelj's units were forcing us to rape and kill them. There is a house behind the hangar where we did this. Two men, Dino and Čova, members of Arkan's units, were the guards. They wore camouflage uniforms, short hair, black caps with White eagles markings. I do not know their real names. On May 17, 1992 they forced me to do it. They were from Serbia. They spoke with a Serbian accent and we were told that they had arrived from Serbia.

On May 17, 1992, in the afternoon, they gave me a knife and told me to slaughter three people. The knife was about 3 cm wide, sharp and peaked, with wooden shaft. Dino gave it to me. It was not a normal knife. They took me in front of the hangar and brought out three men. They told me to slaughter them. There were 5, 6 men from Serbia who brought the people out. I was the only local Serb who executed their orders on that day. They told me to slaughter them or they would slaughter me. When I stated that I did not know how to slaughter, he took my hand and slaughtered the man with it. Then he ordered me to slaughter the other two men. He took my hand and pricked one of the men on his neck. I saw and felt the blood of the man. Two or three men held this man. Diljo held my hand. The dead man was about 40 years old, middle stature. I looked at him, I was depressed.... the other men, who were standing around me, were laughing and telling me: "What kind of Serb are you? You can not slaughter. Look at us, we traveled 400 km to fight here." Then they forced me to slaughter the other two men. I did not know what they looked like. They were poor, tortured, covered with bruises and wounds. While I was slaughtering them, they held them. I killed the second and third man in this way. They died after a short time. I had a little bit of blood on my clothes and hands. They told me that I was bad Chetnik and then they brought another 80 people to see if I knew how to shoot. They gave me a new gun and cartridges. The people were standing in column. I shot towards them. I shot them with a machine-gun. Some of them were only wounded but when I left I heard shots. All of this happened behind the hangars. When I shot, I was about 15 meters away from them. While I was shooting, I moved about 2 meters. It lasted for about 1-2 minutes. I did not know for how long I was shooting. When I finished, I was brought into a room. I did not know how they had chosen these people. I was not in the hangar when they did it. There were people of all ages. When I shot, I pointed at their chests. They told me that I was a bad Chetnik and then they told me: "Let us see what kind of "man" you are?" They brought me into a room. It was some kind of office in the hangar. There was special entrance into this room. I found 12 women in the room and they told me to rape them. There were women from 12 to 24 years of age. They were

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Croatians and Moslems. The other Serbs stripped one girl. She was about 15 years old, he had short, blond hair, she was tall and a little bit fat. I did say anything to her, she was afraid. They were standing around and they were telling me to touch and rape her. They told me to take off my clothes and to lay down on her. I did not have an erection due to fear. They forced me to have intercourse with her i.e. to rape her. I raped this girl. I do not know how I did it because I did not feel anything. I ejaculated and stood up. She was afraid and she did say anything. The other Serbs were standing around and cursing me. I did not see, but I am sure that members of Arkan's and Šešelj's units did the same. They were forcing me to touch the genitals of other girls because they were doing the same. The others were stripping the girls and I had to touch them on their genitals and chests. They were forcing me to lay on them but I did not have an erection. The people who forced me to do this seemed like they were drunk or drugged. They were shouting, laughing, whistling. They forced these women into fellatio and other things.

These Chetniks were in Bijeljina before their arrival to Brčko. The groups changed. We guards were not allowed to enter the camp so I did not know whether there were women who were pregnant. The main commanders of the camps were from Serbia.

On May 19, 1992 I escaped because I was afraid that they would force me to do the same things again. I was afraid that they would kill me. My guard post was out of the camp and when my shift finished I escaped. I went with my friend Slobodan Panić towards a village. A patrol (Croatian I think) arrested us and they brought us to the police station.

I had to tell all that because I believe in God. I was not tortured during my captivity.

My opinion is that the group of Chetniks did all these things in order to exterminate the population and to make Brčko a Serbian town. I think that they were raping women because of the same reason - to frighten the population and to force them to leave their homes. That is the reason why they slaughtered and raped.

I gave this statement of my own free will and without coercion. By signing each page of this statement I confirm it's authenticity.

On December 14, 1922

Statement given by:
Cvijetin Maksimović

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TESTIMONY BOS. P. - 404

SLOBODAN PANIĆ
I was born on October 10, 1970 in Brčko. I lived in Lukovac near Brčko. I am worker a, currently I am unemployed. I am Serbian by nationality. I have a younger sister. My parents are living. My father's name is Cvjetan and my mother's name is Spasa. I give the following

STATEMENT

I worked in Bečej and while I was returning home by car, I was mobilized by policemen and members of the special forces who wore camouflage uniforms. There were local Serbs there as well as Serbs from Serbia. This happened on May 14, 1992. Me and my boss Stevo Rodić, were driven to the police station in Brčko. I then became a member of the reserve police forces. First I was a guard at the cinema building "Oslobodenje" where the police reservists were situated. On May 15, 1992 I was transferred to Brčko-Luka i.e. to the camp. The guard commander of the camp was Sava. I do not know his surname. I think that it is his real name and that he was local Serb. He is about 40-45 years old. He has a deformed crooked mouth, he is dark, short, deformed, he has no jaw. He is about 160 cm tall. I do not know what he did before the war. On May 6, 1992 I was brought to the guardhouse in Luka. I was a guard, nobody was allowed to approach the camp. I was located outside of the camp, about 100 meters away from the camp. One day (on May 16) at about 2 p.m., a member of the special forces, in a camouflage uniform, arrived at the camp. He had some markings on this uniform, he was tall, strong, and dark. He weighed more than 100 kg. His uniform was clean. He had band on his head. He took me to a hangar and there two girls were taken out. He told me to rape them. He ordered me to do this or he would kill me. I saw that he was serious and I did it. There were about ten Serbs in uniforms there. They had some markings on their uniforms. Some of them wore caps. Some of them had beards. By their accents, I concluded that they were from Serbia. They ordered me to rape the two girls, I did not have a real erection. All of that happened in the meadow in front of the hangar. The girls were between 15-20 years of age. One of them had dark hair and the other one had brown hair. The first two girls were dressed. Their faces were covered with bruises, probably due to slaps. Then I told them: "I can not do it." The man who brought me there told me that I had to do it. He threatened to kill me. During that time, another four men held the two girls. Then I had to rape the two girls. I took off their clothes and they held them. They had skirts but they did not have underpants. Then I raped them for a while, I did not feel anything but we had intercourse. I did not ejaculate inside her because it did not last for a long time. I raped both of them for short a period of time. The others were laughing and making remarks. I raped them for 1-2 minutes. The girls cried. Later I was ordered to bring two more girls. However, they brought three new girls and told me that I had to rape them too. Those new girls were beaten too. I could see it on their faces. They were young as well, they were between 17-18 years of age. Their clothes were torn. I know that one of them had been raped before. I did not know what nationality they were, if they were Croatians or Moslems. They certainly were not Serbians. They took away the first two girls and then they brought the three new girls who were taken into the hangar. They were chosen randomly because they asked me if I liked one of the three girls. I was forced to rape them too. It lasted for about 15 minutes. They held them on the ground. They were all crying, one of them tried to resist. The other two were laying down and crying. A man who held the girl who was resisting, slapped her and threatened her. He slapped her fiercely.

When I finished the raping, the man who brought me there ordered me to bring two men and to kill them with a gun. These men looked injured, they were beaten and covered with bruises. They were between 35-40 years of age. I did not know whether they had finished some sort of school or if they were peasants. The two men were ordered to stand next to a wall. I was told to kill them with my gun. I had a "PAP" gun. There was a concrete wall. I was 10 meters away from the two men. I said that I could not kill them but they told me that I had to do it. They did not tell me why I had to kill them. The man told me that if he ordered me to kill them then I had to kill them. Then I opened fire and one man fell down. Then the other one fell down. I shot at their chests. They fell down and I stopped shooting. There were Serbs around me who were shouting: "Bravo, bravo!" Later he told me to bring two more men and to slaughter them. He put a knife in my hand. Two men held the head of one of the men and another one took my hand and slaughtered the man with my hand. It was a big knife. There was not a lot of blood

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The man I slaughtered had short hair, balding, of middle stature, about 40 years old. Then he told me that I had to slaughter the second man alone. He held my hand again and slaughtered this man. At that moment, their commander arrived and said : "Take this man away. Can't you see how pale he is?"

They took me back to my guardhouse, I did not know where they took the corpses. I do not know why they did all these things. After I slaughtered the men, I did not check whether they were dead or alive. The knife was immediately taken from my hand.

I remained at my post until another soldier arrived. Then I was driven to the "Oslobodenje" cinema and there I remained. I spent the entire following day there.

On May 18, my friend Cvijetin and I went towards our homes. We were on the road between Grbavica and Donji Rahić when we were arrested.

I am talking about all these things because I feel better. I decided to speak about the things that had happened because everybody already knew. I told another two men at the "Oslobodenje" cinema the same thing. I do not know about destiny of the people who remained in the camp or whether the International Red Cross ever visited them.

I know that I am guilty of the things that I did. It would have been better if they had killed me instead of forcing me to do what I did.

I told Siniša and Goran from Brčko the same thing.

I give this statement of my own free will and without coercion and by signing each page, I confirm it's authenticity.

Statement given by:
Slobodan Panić

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TESTIMONY BOS. P. - 853

(Croatian woman from Derventa, born on 1959, displaced person, witness of the events in Bosnian Posavina)

There were fierce battles in Bosanski Brod on March 3, 1992, and after about one month these battles transferred to Derventa. The residents of all the Croatian and Muslim villages surrounding Derventa were severely maltreated, provoked and chased off their farms. Under these conditions I traveled 4 km. to work and back. Somewhere around April 20, 1992, out of the 385 workers in my firm, only 3 of us were forcibly taken towards Doboj.

I could not return home. We drove 42 km. from Derventa to Doboj. They drove us in a "TAM" truck with a closed canopy so that we could not see where they were taking us. The most difficult thing for me was not knowing what was happening to my family.

In Derventa I lived with my husband, son, mother-in-law and father-in-law. We had a large house with a garden and about 650 m^2 of land. We owned three cars. When they took me away all I could think about was my family.

When we arrived in Doboj at around 13:00 they told us to take care of ourselves. I went to the Red Cross and then I saw a real Chetnik for the first time. He was wearing civilian clothes with a large black hat with a cocade . He was cleaning his knife and he said that there would be slaughtering of Croats and Muslims that night. There were Serbian refugees from Bosanski Brod there. When I saw where I had found myself I quickly escaped. On the way I met a man (about 45 years of age) and I asked him if he knew of any families I could go to considering that I knew no one in Doboj and that I was Croatian by nationality. He directed me towards the K. family.

There I found a man and his wife, their children were somewhere safe. They treated me like their daughter. I was happy that I found such nice people. I stayed with them for about 2.5 months. During that time I managed to contact a friend in Pula through a radio amateur, and she called my mother in Slavonski Brod and told her that I was alive and safe and that I was in Doboj. My ability to move freely was restricted, as it was with the other Croats, Muslims and Serbs in Doboj. We could only be outside from 8-11, and if you were late even 5 minutes they would throw you into a prison camp, that is if you were a Croat or Muslim. Serbs could go wherever they wanted even after the curfew.

There were three prison camps in Doboj. One of them was at "Bosanka" - Doboj, the other was at the Bosna river and the third was in the garrison. We were under house arrest for 21 hours a day, and this lasted for 2.5 months. It was awful and unbearable. They took away our food, they maltreated us, there were non-stop patrols conducted by armed soldiers, who would shoot at anything that moved. We were not allowed to go onto the balcony or even move the drapes. The committee for the exchange of prisoners in the camps and civilians was in Doboj.

When they received orders about who they were looking for, they would put us all on a list and when they collected enough people, they would be taken in an organized fashion to the exchange through the Red Cross of Bosanski Brod. Bosanski Brod was looking for Croats and Muslims, like me, and Doboj was looking for Serbs from Croatia and Bosnia in exchange. During that entire period of time I had no news about my son, husband or in-laws.

From Doboj we were driven to Bosanska Gradiška, and from there we had to go to Nova Gradiška into Croatia, the exchange was done in Dragalići. On the bus to Dragalići I sat next to a young man from Doboj, M.I. (age 38-40). He was telling about horrible events. He had lost 18 kg of weight while he was in a prison camp. He told me about the incredible things he was forced to endure. During the first days in prison they received a slice of bread with a little marmalade. They had some luck when a man was taken off the street and he had 5 kg. of rice in his pockets. That rice was divided amongst the other 380 prisoners. Everyone received a few grains of rice which they ate raw over a five day period. They beat whoever they wanted whenever they wanted. They mostly struck the head and kidneys. He is now at his sisters place in Zagreb, his brother died in Slavonski Brod.

When we arrived in Dragalići for the exchange I saw another bus full of civilians and a small "TAM" truck with the bodies of four dead soldiers. The exchange was not completed because they could not agree on the "all for all" agreement, they claimed there were to few Serbs. We were taken back there 3 times, and on the third time we were taken to the bridge held by UNPROFOR and then to gas station where there were representatives of UNPROFOR, the Bosanski Brod Red Cross, the Serbian side and the Croatian side with interpreters.

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The UNPROFOR members asked every one of us if we were going to Croatia voluntarily. I was very happy when I stepped on Croatian soil. Then I thanked God for helping us. We were then taken Slavonska Požega by the Croatian army and we were given our first warm meal in a long time. I was surprised to see juice and bananas.

From Slavonska Požega some headed towards Zagreb, others went to Bosanski Brod, to the crisis center at the sock factory "Bosna". We overnighted there and they collected information about us.

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By signing every page of this testimony I confirm it's authenticity and that this testimony was given without any coercion.

In Kukljica, April 26, 1993.

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TESTIMONY SIL - 1092

(Croatian woman, displaced person from Bosanski Brod, born on 1970, victim of rape)

On October 6, 1992 Chetniks entered our village and the people who remained in the village escaped in every direction. I stayed alone in my house because my parents went to Slavonski Brod the day before. I was waiting for my brother, he was a member of the HVO (Croatian Defence Council), who was supposed to pick me up but he had not arrived. It was raining in the evening and MIROSLAV ŠUKURMA and his cousin SRETEN came to my house. I knew Miroslav very well because we went to school together. They broke down the door, they wore camouflage uniforms and caps with some markings. I did not recognise him because he had long hair and beard. He said; "God help us, my school-friend". He told me that he liked me when we were in school. He told me that I did want to go with him to the Senior Prom but time was changing. He also told me : "You are defending your home now. Where are the other Ustasha?" I was afraid and I did not say anything. They were searching the house to see if I was alone or if there was somebody else. Allegedly they were looking for weapons. As there was nobody else in the house they brought me with them saying: " Get out and move!" I stayed on the street with Miroslav and Sreten was gathering other people in the next street. In front of the village shop they brought about ten other people, mostly elderly persons. Then they loaded us onto trucks and drove us to Bosanski Brod. They told us that B. Brod was 'liberated from the Ustasha'. We were situated to the Dom Sportova (sport hall) . The following day Miroslav took me to an apartment near the hall. There he kept telling me that he liked me while we were in school. Then he raped me. Before the rape he caressed me. He was drunk. He told me that I should be kinder to him because he had saved me and that I was going to be fine. He lacerated my clothes and raped me by saying that Serbs were better lovers than Ustasha and that I was going to realise that Serbs were great people. I tried to defend myself and to scream but it did not help. In front of the door I heard someone saying: "Keep going!" I think that it lasted for one hour. When he was leaving he told me that I should not try to escape. When I was left alone I was thinking about my parents and what would they do if they knew. I wanted to jump through the window but I was hoping that I was going to be exchanged.

Miroslav came back in the evening and brought me some tins of food to eat. He said: "Good evening, are you still here, I am back. You did not jump through the window, so you must have enjoyed it." Then he raped me. Fifteen (15) minutes later he left again and locked me in on the 4th floor. There I stayed until June 28, 1993 when I was exchanged with help of Veljko Petković (Serb). All that time I was allowed to go out only if I was accompanied by Miroslav, mostly when I went to interrogations. Miroslav arrived when he liked. He brought me tins of food. Sometimes he arrived during the day, sometimes at night. I could be never sure. It depended on his mood. He used to kick and punch me. My body was covered with bruises. In the beginning we had sexual intercourse more often, later he did it every few days. He never asked me if I liked it or not. He did it when he liked it. Sometimes he brought in his war friends. There were 5-6 of them. They were drinking and as I was their "war prey" they were deriding me. They were vulgar and they were telling me the things such as: "Are Ustasha better lovers or are we better? Who is doing it better to you? etc. " I did not say a word. None of them tried to rape me.

A few days after I had been brought into the apartment, Miroslav's cousin Sreten came to the apartment. Miroslav had to go out and while he was absent, Sreten raped me. He told me: "Now I am going to try you." He hit me on the couch, he slapped me several times and then he raped me. Then Miroslav returned, they quarreled and he chased Sreten away. Miroslav kept on arriving whenever he wanted to. In mid-May Miroslav noticed that my stomach was growing and he asked me: "Are you pregnant?" I said that it was probably true. He said: "Nice, there will be more little ones."

At the beginning of June Miroslav arrived, he was accompanied by Veljko Petković who was in charge of the exchanges (I knew him because I was helping during exchanges while I was living in my house).

All that time my parents and my brother were looking for me but, in the beginning Miroslav did not want exchange me. He had to accept it later because his superiors had ordered him to do so. Miroslav told me: "I wish you good luck. You see, you will not have a little Serb but little Ustasha. Maybe we will meet again some day."

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On June 28, in the morning, Petković and Miroslav entered the apartment and drove me to Srbac where I was handed over to our soldiers who drove me to Orašje where my brother was. I was situated in Donja Mahala with a girl. I found my cousin and I told him what had happened and he promised me that he would try to do something. A few days later I went to a private doctor in Županja who confirmed my pregnancy and sent me for an ultra-sound examination. Then I went to Vinkovci in the beginning of July and they told me that it was the 18th or 19th the week of pregnancy and that it was to late and too dangerous to perform an abortion. They said me to give birth to the baby. But I could not even think about it. I arrived in Zagreb three weeks ago and went again to a private gynecologist who told me that it was too late. Then I came to Petrova hospital to have an ultra-sound examination and they told me that it was 20th week of pregnancy. Then I went to the Sestre Milosrdnice hospital and there I was told that it was 23rd week and that it was too late to perform the abortion.

Now, I am here and I do not want have this baby because I know who his father is. I do not know what would I say to my parents. I can not admit it to them, they are seriously ill.

By signing each page of the statement I confirm the authenticity of the above written. The statement is given of my own free will and without coercion.

In Zagreb, August 11, 1993
